

f?

Plan now to observe

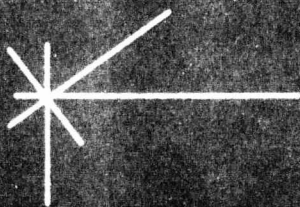


Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions

December 4-11, 1968

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Goal: \$14,500,000



□ THE DARGAN-CARVER LIB. ST.
127 9TH AV. N. DB
□ NASHVILLE, TN 372 13

from Birmingham

Dear Pastor-

The Church Growth Plan is a term that should be uppermost in the thinking of every Southern Baptist. We need to be concerned at our declining growth in recent years—and take a statistical look at ourselves.

The book of Acts sets the pattern for the church in our day. The picture of the early church is a picture of rapid growth, with Christians taking advantage of strategic opportunities for multiplication. But the churches of today may be all too often satisfied with what they are. We say this because we are concerned not only about our churches but about our own—standstill.

We would not have you think we are concerned only for the sake of Women's Missionary Union, but we believe that as women, girls, and children become active in study and mission action, they will be better builders of a stronger church.

For instance, as new church members are enrolled, WMU will do her part in involving those eligible for membership in WMU. We work to lead them to serve Christ and to extend the church's mission in the world.

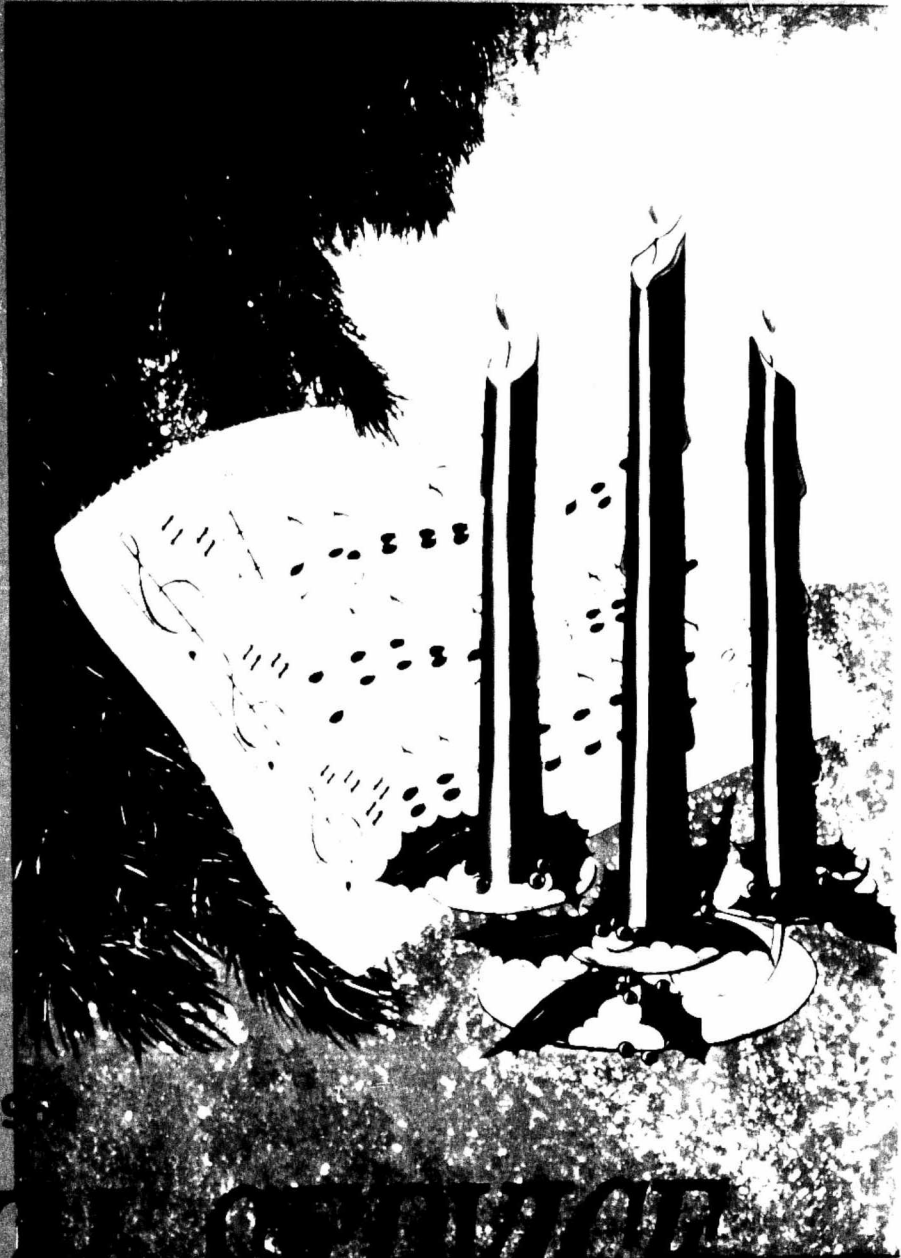
While the plan calls for concentration on adults, no church will lessen its outreach efforts in behalf of children and youth.

Among many efforts WMU is making, there are two plans we mention here, because we believe they are vital to each church. First, a prayer retreat to lead members to pray for every effort the church makes for growth. Spiritual maturity makes the difference in what happens. Second, support of the Church Growth Plan by involving individuals in mission action. Ministering to people of special need such as the underprivileged, people in institutions, language groups, and the neglected leads to individual spiritual growth which in turn permeates the entire church.

If your WMU leaders need information about their part in the Church Growth Plan, ask the president to order the free leaflet, "WMU and the Church Growth Plan," from her state WMU office.

We know that you, as one pastor, will be—with us—in all our efforts as a church program organization to do our part in the Church Growth Plan.

Sincerely,
WMU Staff



DECEMBER 1963

ROYAL SERVICE



2



10



12



29



34

ROYAL SERVICE

Volume 61 Number 6

DECEMBER 1966

CONTENTS

<i>Marie Mathis</i>	1	Day by Day—Living
<i>James M. Young</i>	2	God's Miracles for Yemen
<i>Mrs. Ralph Gwin</i>	7	Christmas Is Much More
<i>Baker James Cauthen</i>	9	The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
<i>Dallas M. Lee and Irene Gray</i>	10	Missions Here and There
<i>Mrs. Charles A. Maddy</i>	12	Call to Prayer
<i>Marie Mathis</i>	17	Is This Your Question?
<i>Eunice Allison</i>	18	Circle Study
<i>Gilbert L. Giffin</i>	22	Bible Study
<i>Marguerite S. Bubb</i>	22	Bible Study Guide
	24	Mission Study
<i>Alma Hunt</i>	26	Denominational Dimensions
<i>Mrs. Chester F. Russell</i>	27	As You Go
<i>Cyril E. Bryant</i>	29	From Washington
<i>Franklin T. Fowler</i>	30	Medical Missionary
<i>Masone King</i>	32	It Happens in Lebanon
<i>Fayly H. Cothran</i>	33	Books and Their Meaning for Missions
<i>Area Secretaries</i>	34	Wide Use of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
<i>Helen Fling</i>	37	"Behold the Lamb of God"
<i>Inanitta Morrill Wilkinson</i>	38	Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

EDITORIAL STAFF

Ethalee Hamric, Editor	Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Promotion Division Director
Margaret Bruce, Director, WMS	
Betty Jo Corum, Director, Editorial Services	Consulting Editors:
Billie Pate, Director, Field Services	Mrs. Robert Fling, Presid
Elaine Dickson, Assistant to the Promotion Division Director	Alma Hunt, Executive
	Layout and Design:
	Florence Jeffares

ROYAL SERVICE is published monthly by Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary of Baptist Convention, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203. Postage: single copy, 25 cents. Annual subscription only. Alabama subscribers add 4% tax. Allow four weeks for renewal, new subscription, change of address, include 50¢. Entered as second-class matter at the post office in Birmingham, Alabama, at special postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized June 26, 1959.

38

Day by Day--Living

AN EDITORIAL

by Marie Mathis

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given . . . and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6). Thus the ancient prophet vividly foretold the coming of the Messiah.

And in the fulness of time the Prince of peace was born. He was born historically, and the heavenly news was told with angel songs that Christ was born in Bethlehem of Judea. In a sense, Christ is born anew today, and every day in the hearts of those who come to know him as counselor, the mighty God, the Saviour, and Lord of living. This is the angel song of Christmas.

Christmas is not a season of the year. It is the Spirit of the living, loving, serving, going, doing, being Christ moving among us. Christmas is an attitude of life. It is love and joy and peace. It is generosity, good will, kindness, reconciliation, hope. It is the radiance and unselfishness and glory expressed in everyday living that is the deep, spiritual meaning of Christmas.

Christ was born in the first century; yet, he belongs to all the centuries. He was born a Jew; yet, he belongs to all races. He was born in Bethlehem; yet, he belongs to all countries.

"And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6). It was the great Handel who set to music these words from Isaiah's pen, and each Christmas pilgrims in search of renewal of life turn their footsteps toward the churches of the living God to hear the joyful tidings, to feel again the wonder that God and his Son so loved the world—its people of every nation—that he came to be lifted up, to live among them.

At Christmas it is not difficult to express love and concern and joy and hope in our living one with the other. But it is at the point of day-by-day living that our record is often shabby and tarnished. We show sometimes the unconcern of old Scrooge in our disregard for the needs of others.

But Scrooge learned the meaning of Christmas. Charles Dickens in *A Christmas Carol* has him say: "I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year." How deeply Christians yearn for the presence of the Holy Spirit in their daily lives so that they can live creatively as witnesses in Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the earth. How helplessly they try to love others—without the power of the Holy Spirit!

When men love Christ as Lord, they will also learn to love one another, for he is the miracle of all the ages. It was he who sent the Spirit to indwell his followers. When we are empowered by him to believe with conviction that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem is the image and brightness of eternal love, we will keep Christmas all our days.

God's Miracle of Yemen

by James D. Young, MD

Missionary in Yemen

This is my testimony of how God led me to Yemen. I am no different from any of you. God is no different today from what he was yesterday or will be tomorrow. This world is full of work to be done, of people to be won, and he still calls his people to do his work. He could be calling you. If he is, do not be afraid to answer.

I WANT to tell how we came to go to Yemen; how God, I believe, brought to pass something few people would dream possible—the establishment of a Christian witness in Yemen. This is a land in Old Testament territory which has been almost completely closed to the gospel for one thousand years. I cannot tell you how thankful I am that God allowed me to have a part in it.

This is my testimony, not of what I have done, but of what God has done for me. It has been my feeling and my belief that, other things being equal, I ought to serve as a Christian doctor where the greatest need existed.

It was about three years after my decision to become a missionary that in a meeting for missions volunteers I learned that the greatest need of our Foreign Mission Board at that time was for missionary doctors. Until then I had not known in what field I should work; but in the nineteen years since that week in Ridgecrest, I have never doubted that it was God who spoke to me and put these questions in my mind: Why not you? Why can't you help meet this medical need?

I have never doubted that God had a hand in it.



Missionary doctor Jim Young in the Taiz area of Yemen talking with farmers



ranging that my prayer partner in Ridgecrest that week should be a young doctor. Up until that time, as I was preparing to enter my senior year of college at Louisiana Polytechnic Institute in Ruston, I had never considered being a doctor. After that time I never considered anything else.

My wife June tells me I have travel-lust in my blood. Perhaps so. I would not deny it, and I do not know when I first became interested in Yemen—sometime during our first year at Gaza, where we served 1955 to 1964. I didn't know much about Yemen except that it was a very backward country with little contact with the outside world. Foreign visitors were discouraged. Unlike other countries of Arabia, no oil had been or has since been discovered in Yemen, and no one was clamoring to go there. It was a land almost entirely without schools. It was a country that used no paper money and no checks, only coins. And so far as I knew, it was a country where no missionary could enter, a country completely without Christianity. I wanted very much to go see what Yemen was like.

Our first four years in Gaza were busy and happy ones, not without problems and troubles, but nonetheless happy ones. I do not know if I mentioned my desire to visit Yemen to anyone during those years—perhaps to my wife. If I did talk to her about Yemen, it did not disturb her; she knew there was no chance of my ever going.

The first time I can remember saying anything to anyone else about this persistent thought was during our furlough in 1961.

One Wednesday evening before prayer meeting at Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, I was talking to our pastor, Dr. Scott L. Tatum. I told him how I would like to visit this old land which had so few doctors and no Christian witness. That evening in the prayer service he made a few remarks about our conversation of my desire to visit Yemen. I was a bit embarrassed that anything so unlikely should be mentioned publicly.

Upon our return to Gaza after furlough, I had a period of about six months without any major responsibility in the hospital. I knew that I would not likely have another opportunity any time soon, so I decided to try to go to Yemen.

There was a man in Gaza who had lived some years in Yemen and had been the director of the king's police school. He told me that no foreigner could enter Yemen except by the king's own permission. My language teacher helped me write the only letter I have ever addressed to a king. This was about January in 1962.

Because the mails in Gaza were not very dependable,

I waited a short time until I could go to Beirut, Lebanon, to send it. While there I went to the legation of Yemen to see if perhaps I might be able to get a visa in spite of what I had been told by the man in Gaza. I was received quite coolly and told that foreigners who had no business in Yemen were not allowed to go there. I then showed these officers the letter I was sending to the king. When they saw I was not to be easily discouraged, they told me to write to the American consulate in Yemen, recently opened, and have the consul request my visa. They would forward my letter to Yemen.

In reply to my request, the American consul answered that he had seen the foreign minister and was promised a visa would be provided me in Beirut, Lebanon.

Several weeks went by—then three or four months—and still no visa!

In the meantime I had returned to my work in the hospital at Gaza. I had prayed that God would allow me to get the visa if it were his will that I visit Yemen.

In September, 1962, the king of Yemen died. Several days later his son was overthrown in a revolution and fled the capital to the mountains.

Sometime after the revolution, I was again in Beirut and my interest in Yemen was revived in an unusual way. A Dutch Baptist evangelist spoke one evening in the Baptist church in Beirut telling of his experiences of preaching in Eastern Europe behind the Iron Curtain. He had a thrilling testimony.

The next morning I was riding in the same car with him from the Baptist Seminary to downtown Beirut. He told me he was going to the Yemeni Legation to apply for a visa to visit a doctor working in Yemen. This doctor was one of the few sent from Czechoslovakia to work in the government hospital in Sana, capital of Yemen. His salary was paid by the Yemeni government. It was unusual that this doctor should be sent, even more so that he was allowed by his Communist government to go, for this doctor was a Christian; and because it was considered an undesirable post and no one else had applied for the job, he was there. This same doctor had served in Prague, Czechoslovakia, as translator for

a Dutch evangelist when he had preached there for several days two or three years earlier. The Dutch evangelist wished now to visit his doctor friend in Yemen. I hoped to be able to preach there—though of course I gave as his reason for wanting to go only to visit his friend.

The evangelist's request for a visa was denied. He was told there was still too much fighting for foreigners to be allowed in the country. Later the same morning, not yet knowing the outcome of his visit, I decided I would try again to get a visa. I told the one who received me in the office I wanted to visit Yemen. His first question was, "What newspaper do you work for?"

"None," I said, and explained I was a doctor and was interested in knowing about medical conditions in Yemen. I said I would like to visit there for this purpose. The man explained the country was still unsettled after the recent revolution, and he thought it would not be possible.

"Do you have your passport with you?" he asked. When I said no, but that I could get it, he told me I might check by later but that he thought there was little possibility of my being permitted to enter the country. About noon I returned with my passport just before the office closed. The same man took it to an inner office, returned less than five minutes later, and said: "That will be five pounds," about \$1.65. I had a visa! It was valid for only one month.

Yemen was almost 1,500 miles away. After checking on the price of an airline ticket, it became apparent I couldn't expect to make the trip for less than \$500. Most missionaries don't have that kind of money just to satisfy their curiosity to see what some far-off land is like. At least I did not. But having my visa in hand encouraged me to see what could be done.

Several months after the revolution in Yemen, as fighting between the two groups continued, the United Nations stationed a group of observers on the border between Yemen and Saudi Arabia to try to check on the flow of arms. Headquarters for this United Nations mission was in Sana, the capital. To get this mission set up, the commanding general of United Nations Emergency Force in Gaza sent troops there to maintain peace on the border between Israel on one side and Gaza and Egypt on the other side. He had been sent on detached duty to Yemen about a month or two before the time I got my visa. And for a similar period of time UN planes had been going from their base, which was only fifty miles from Gaza, to Yemen once a week. I decided to try to get a ride on one of these flights, though I had no earthly legitimate right to request a seat on the plane.

After a few inquiries I learned through which channel to make the request, and on a Saturday morning I told Wing Commander Htady of the Royal Canadian Air Force I would like to go on the UN plane to Yemen. I told him I had two reasons for wanting to go.

One purely personal. I just wanted to see what Yemen was like. Second, to see if there was any possibility of our mission board beginning medical work in Yemen.

I was truthful even to the extent of telling him that the last reason was my idea; I was not authorized by our mission board to do so. Much to my surprise he seemed to think the request was not unreasonable, but said it would have to be referred to UN Headquarters in New York for approval.

At this my heart sank, and I told him he might as well forget the whole thing. But he said he would see what he could do. Monday I received a telephone call saying I had been cleared to go and could be ready two days later! I learned afterward that rather than referring the matter to New York, they had referred it to General Gyani, head of the United Nations Mission in Yemen.

It was my good fortune that he knew me, and he gave his approval for me to come to Yemen on the UN flight.

Two highly unlikely events had occurred. I had been granted a visa—and a free ride to Yemen. And I might add I got food and lodging at the UN headquarters in Yemen, but for this I gladly paid.

I will not go into the details of how it came about, but a few days after arriving in Yemen I had an appointment with the director general of the Ministry of Health. I was surprised to learn that he had spent eight years in America, had earned a degree in public health from Tulane University in New Orleans, and had an American wife.

Since we had both gone to school in New Orleans, this almost made us old friends. Though this director general was not a Christian, he knew of the desire of churches in America to help overseas in lands less fortunate than ours. He had even been invited by several church groups in America to tell of his country and its needs. I told him of my interest in Yemen and asked if he thought it would be possible for a Christian mission such as ours to open medical work in his country. I explained that I had no authority to promise anything, but could only report to our mission board the outcome of our discussion.

Much to my surprise he said they would welcome help from almost any source, even from a Christian mission, so long as nothing was done to arouse the possible religious fanaticism of the people in his country. I told him I would be returning to Gaza after a couple of days and asked if he would give me something in writing to show to the headquarters of our mission board. He promised he would.

My enthusiasm was dampened when I had to return to Gaza and I had not heard from him again. What I did not know at the time was that instead of giving me a letter, he wrote directly to our Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, whose address I had given him, and extended an invitation or request for Southern Baptists

to open a medical project in Yemen—a land up to then completely closed to Christian missionaries!

My greatest fear after I first visited Yemen was that I might be trying to do something I wanted rather than what God wanted.

As I stated at the beginning, I have felt I could be most happy working where there is the greatest need for what I can do, and to me Yemen had seemed to be that kind of place. Spiritually, Yemen is a land long cut off from all contact with the gospel and without any Christian witness and at the same time a land said to have more people per doctor than any other nation on earth. According to statistics put out by the World Health Organization in 1963, the condition of Yemen then could be equivalent to having twenty or twenty-five doctors for the entire state of Louisiana, the population of which is 3,468,000.

Going to Yemen to work was what I wanted so much that I was afraid it might be my will rather than God's. And yet as the way opened step by step, I knew that these improbable and seemingly impossible events could never have come about without God's hand in all of it.

There is not time to tell now of all that happened in the next few months before we moved to Yemen in 1964. Sometimes as I look back, I find it hard to believe that it all worked out, so unlikely did it seem. However, not everything was smooth and easy. I learned of the invitation sent from the Ministry of Health to our mission board when a copy of the Board's reply to Yemen was sent to me. This reply thanked the officials of the Ministry of Health for their invitation, but expressed that the Board was in no position to begin work at that time because it lacked personnel and resources. It was then I felt most strongly that perhaps I had been trying too hard to do what I wanted, and maybe God had not been in it at all. I was disappointed, but I realized that it could be God's way of letting me know I had been too anxious. You can imagine my joy when a month or so later I received a letter from Dr. John D. Hughey, our area secretary for the Foreign Mission Board, asking me to go once again to Yemen, this time with him, to see what could be done about the possibility of beginning work there.

Our trip almost ended in failure before we got to Yemen. When we arrived in Asmara, Ethiopia, to change to the plane to take us to Yemen, we learned that a cable sent to Cairo canceling our reservation had arrived too late. Because of fighting on the border between Ethiopia and the Somali Republic, our flight from Ethiopia to Yemen had been canceled. Our plane was to be used to fly military supplies into the country. There would be another flight four days later if conditions improved. A plane was returning to Cairo in about an hour. Instead we went the next day to Aden, South Arabia, hoping the border between there and Yemen would be open.

As a result of this detour and delay, we met a man who proved to be of great help later in making arrangements to ship our supplies and equipment to Yemen. When we finally arrived in Sana, Yemen, on Friday, two days late, all offices were closed. The director of the Ministry of Health did not meet us. Our telegram telling him of our change of schedule had failed to reach him. He was not in his office; we did not know where he lived, and Dr. Hughey had to leave the next day because he was already behind his schedule. But I went to the Ministry of Health and was knocking on the locked door when a man passing by asked me what I wanted. After I explained, he said he knew some of the people who worked there, and we would just stand outside the building until one of them walked by in the street. Eventually someone did walk by who knew where the brother of the man we were looking for lived. And quite some time later when he stuck his head out of an upper story window, I recognized Mr. Mohanny, the object of our search.

That afternoon Dr. Hughey and I had a very cordial meeting with him and agreed in principle on our establishing work in Yemen! In May of 1964 I made one other trip to Yemen at which time the Minister of Health formally signed the agreement for us to begin work.

Four months later my family and I, along with a Baptist nurse from Spain, moved to Yemen.

In March of 1965 the Baptist Clinic in Taiz began seeing patients in temporary quarters. Our first month almost a thousand different patients were treated in over 1,300 clinic visits. In 1966 we hope to begin building a clinic in a province in Yemen that has a population of nearly a million people; when we left Yemen in May, 1965, it had one doctor part of the time.

June and I were grateful for the opportunity of being home with our families on furlough in the summer of 1965. We were encouraged to learn of the widespread interest of Baptists throughout our Southern Baptist Convention in this new missions field. I was thrilled when Dr. Baker James Cauthen said to me while at home: "Jim, we're going to get the funds for a hospital in Yemen." (\$29,250 is listed in the 1966 Little Moon Christmas Offering allocations for work in Yemen.)

How grateful I am for a Cooperative Program and Little Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions! These make it possible for any church to have a part in making a reality our entire missionary program around the world. And how especially thankful June and I are for having had a church to grow up in which nurtured us in its activities, which challenged us to do God's will. We have indeed been blessed. We know in Yemen. It scares me to think of all the problems, but I pray that the hospital which we are building at Jibla may be the means of leading many into the light of God's love.

Christmas is much more

by Mrs. Ralph Gwin

CHRISTMAS is a spirit in the air, an air of expectancy, of excitement, of hurry and hustle, beginning the first day after Thanksgiving.

Christmas is decorations: tinsel and foil; holly and evergreen boughs; trees sold on every corner; bright wrappings on packages; tall slender candles in bright red or cold blue; fat, squat candles burning hour after hour, melting pools of wax around the wick.

Christmas is music: music in the air wherever you go, whether it be a loudspeaker blasting off-key tunes, or the soft pealing of the Christmas organ in the large stores, or even semisacred and popular music over the public address system at the post office to help the crowds wait in line more patiently to mail numerous parcels.

Christmas is singing: the sweet, clear voice of childhood ringing out so appealingly the refrains of songs so familiar and dear at this season. It is the singing of well-trained church choirs as they proclaim the wondrous story of the birth of the Christ Child. Written in many different ways, the song is ever the same, old, yet always new and precious.

Christmas is giving: giving something needed, useful and practical; something luxurious, unnecessary, and

utterly impractical. It is giving something whether little or big, costly or without cost. It is searching for, and finding, some gift just suited to friend or loved one. And it is giving oneself in love and service to some who need us.

Christmas is secrets: the secret held within the bright paper and ribbons of packages under the tree, secrets kept from one another, secrets given away by children overly anxious to let Mother and Daddy know what the secret is.

Christmas is stories: the Baby Jesus born in a stable as angels said, the Wise Men who came bringing gifts, and the story of the "Other Wise Man," stories of Santa with his great pack on his back, his reindeer and sleigh. It is the story of Tiny Tim and his "God bless us every one."

Christmas is childhood: being rushed off early to bed for fear Santa will not come. It is lying awake, still as a mouse, hoping to catch a glimpse of the red-suited, jolly old man, then dropping off to sleep just when you were sure he was about to come. It is awaking early, long before anyone else, and filling the house with shrieks of joy that the great day is here. It is opening packages from under the Christmas tree, or delving to

the depths of a long stocking to pull out the most precious gift from the very tiptoe. It is wide-eyed seeing of the tracks left in the soot of the chimney back, and daring to believe that Santa actually did come in that way—even though the chimney is very small, and you know that Santa is very fat!

Christmas is home: being at home. It is going home. It is being at home with your own at a special time of year. It is the smell of fruitcake and plum pudding baking in the kitchen; the turkey, cranberries, cookies, and candy. It is the festive atmosphere lent to the home by a holly wreath on the door, lights twinkling from the windows, a tree gaily decorated, unusual table decorations. Christmas is home, home at its gayest and best.

Christmas is all this. But Christmas is much more than all this.

Christmas is Christ: the jewel, the sapphire star without price who sheds his brilliance over your Christmas tree. He is the composer-director who blends all major and minor chords of life into a song of matchless beauty and sweetness. He is the Saviour who gave his all. He is the secret, the key, to all of life's secrets. His story is the story of life, life eternal and everlasting. He is the ideal of childhood who himself typifies all the ideals of every age. He is the foundation, the protecting walls and the overshadowing roof of the home. He is the Christ, the risen Lord, the only Saviour of the world.

Yes, Christmas is Christ. It is a birthday celebrated in honor of a tiny babe born on a long ago night, a celebration honoring a man who "went about doing good" and who asked others to follow his example. It is the birthday of a man who died and rose again that other men might know how to celebrate Christmas. It is the natal day of the Saviour of all men. Christmas is ours only because Christ is ours, and only in his name and for his sake can we properly keep the day.

Christmas for Christ,
Not Christmas for me;
But Christmas for Christ
Who gave Christmas to me.

Gifts for the Christ?
Not gifts just for me!
But gifts for the Christ
Who gave all for me.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

by Baker James Cauthen



Baptists are aware that advance in world missions requires ever increasing resources. We are sharply reminded of this fact when we compare the 1957 budget of \$8,128,504.34 required for worldwide missionary ministries with the forthcoming 1967 budget of \$22 million required for the current expenses of missionary labor throughout the world. To this figure of \$22 million must be added the amount needed to construct churches, hospitals, publishing houses, schools, seminaries, and missionary residences. Even when as much as \$7 million is available for capital purposes, recommendations from the missions fields calling for more than \$4 million remain unmet.

One can readily understand why increasing financial resources are imperative. The appointment of 250 new missionaries annually requires an increase of \$2 million in the operating budget of the Foreign Mission Board, not only to provide for the added responsibilities of a large missionary staff, but for the growing ministries on missions fields. In earlier years the increase called for \$1 million. The figure then was increased to \$1,500,000 as advance in missions accelerated. It now calls for \$2 million annually.

The importance of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering can be readily understood because the sum of \$7,317,000 will be provided by this offering for support of missionaries and ministries on missions fields as a part of the budget of \$22 million. The remainder of the offering will provide buildings and equipment for missions fields.

What a tragic reduction in the missionary work that is now being done would be necessary if the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering were not in existence! With the funds provided by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering supplementing those which are given through the Cooperative Program, it becomes possible to project financial plans for worldwide missionary responsibility on an increasing scale.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is of major importance in providing funds to build missions residences, schools, hospitals, churches, and publishing houses. The extent to which these needs can be provided de-

pends upon the total amount of the offering. It is for this reason that the attainment of the goal of the offering is of such importance. Every dollar given enables additional needs to be met.

Finances necessary for missionary labor fall into three categories. First, there must be funds for the support of missionaries. Second, there must be funds for ministries on the field. Third, there must be funds to provide essential buildings.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is of vital importance to each one of these phases of financial responsibility. Growth in worldwide missionary labor depends upon spiritual, financial, and human resources. These must be closely joined for growth to continue.

The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions vastly strengthens spiritual resources as intercession arises for the labor of Christ in many lands. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering brings financial resources which reinforce the support of missions through the Cooperative Program whereby advance can continue. God continues to call his servants to the task, and they respond with their lives in glorious dedication.

It is our prayer that the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering may grow in power and meaning throughout the years. One should always keep in mind that the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering strengthens total missionary giving through the Cooperative Program. Springs of compassion are opened which continue to flow throughout the year, thereby reinforcing all the missionary labor done by Southern Baptists at home and abroad through the Cooperative Program.

It is our firm conviction that God is calling Southern Baptists to a much larger missionary labor than we have ever contemplated. The goal of five thousand missionaries has been set before us. It is recognized that this will take larger resources than we have ever brought to this task, but we believe that God is able and that Southern Baptists will respond to his calling with joy and dedication. Our prayer is that the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering may grow in power, abundance, and meaning so that advance in worldwide missionary labor may continue to the glory of Christ our Lord.

1966 OFFERING GOAL: \$14,500,000

MISSIONS

HERE and THERE

by Dallas M. Lee and Ione Gray

● **Gary, Indiana**—When Don Weeks visited a Jordanian couple in Gary, Indiana, and invited them to join others in the Gary Baptist Center activities, he raised the banner for Christian love which Baptist centers are created to represent.

Without making demands or setting forth prerequisites, Mr. Weeks, pastor and director of the center, invited the Muslim couple, Mr. and Mrs. Jamelah Atallah, to come to the center for fellowship.

"When we visit, we tell people that it doesn't matter what faith they claim or what church they are a member of; if we can help them, they are welcome," Mr. Weeks said.

In a sense that statement defines the mission of a Baptist center. Its first function is to serve the community out of genuine Christian concern, whether through worship services, weekday activities such as sewing clubs and day care for children, or organized athletics.

When Don Weeks visited the Muslim couple, for example, he discovered a need just for friendship, so he extended the hand of Christian fellowship. The couple and several Jordanian friends now come regularly to the center, have made friends, and as a result they are in constant contact with Christianity. This is the Baptist center style, not to coerce but to show concern and readiness to help and to teach in love, for Jesus' sake.

A story in the local newspaper has drawn Mr. Weeks' and the community's attention. The husband had been reunited with his wife, who was in Gary, after a year-long wait in Jordan for a visa.

"We noticed that they lived in our block, so we visited them," Mr. Weeks said. "We had a gracious reception, and they responded quickly to our offer of friendship."

The Home Mission Board bought the building now housing the Gary Baptist Center in 1963 from the East Gary Baptist Church, which had bought it from a Jewish congregation. East Gary had started a mission there, which developed into a church but ran into trouble and disbanded.

Still feeling responsible for the debt, East Gary invited the Home Mission Board to investigate the sit-



Virginia Weeks (center) and husband, Don Weeks, visit with a friend at Gary Baptist Center, Gary, Indiana



Mrs. Jamelah Atallah, native of Jordan and a Muslim, who attends Gary Baptist Center activities regularly.

uation with the idea of keeping some sort of Baptist witness in the area.

The Board, after careful study by its department of Christian social ministries, agreed to buy the building. Then the Chase Street Baptist Church in Gary agreed to sponsor Sunday services and the Lake Michigan and Northern Indiana associations agreed to help with the work. The Chase Street Woman's Missionary Society makes sure the nursery always is staffed.

Don Weeks and his wife Virginia, who was appointed by the Home Mission Board to direct the Gary Baptist Center, had previously been appointed to begin work in Pueblo, New Mexico, among Spanish-speaking people. They started a mission that developed into a church. And it's the hope of this fine couple that the Gary Baptist Center eventually will develop into a self-supporting church.

● **Orientation for Foreign Missionaries**—Southern Baptist foreign missionaries who begin their work overseas in 1968 and beyond will be different, says Dr. Jesse C. Fletcher, secretary for missionary personnel for the Foreign Mission Board. The difference will be in pre-sailing (or pre-flying) experience more than in knowledge.

In its April, 1966, meeting the Foreign Mission Board committed itself to a two-year pilot project of extended stateside orientation for newly appointed career missionaries. Beginning in September, 1967, this expanded program will provide for two sixteen-week periods annually, to be held at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Assembly. Each appointee will take a full sixteen-week course.

The effectiveness of the new program of training will be evaluated for two years, and the Board will decide whether it will be continued.

In its April meeting the Board also elected Rev. W. David Lockard, missionary to Rhodesia, director of missionary orientation. Taking a leave of absence from his missionary responsibilities, he will work with Dr. Fletcher in enlisting a faculty and working out the many details related to the expanded program.

To the task of preparing new missionaries, Mr. Lock-

ard brings eleven years of experience in the preparation of national preachers. He was president of the African Baptist Theological Seminary, near Gwelo, Rhodesia, from its opening in 1955 until he assumed his new position as an associate secretary in the Foreign Mission Board's personnel department.

"As one who lives and serves abroad, I have a growing conviction that the gospel must come to the people in the most appealing and convincing manner possible," Mr. Lockard said.

Though a longer and more comprehensive orientation has been under consideration by the Foreign Mission Board for a number of years, it is coming to fruition in 1967 partly as a result of the missions consultation held by the Board in Miami Beach, Florida, in the summer of 1965. New impetus was given to the project after it was urged by many of the consultation work groups.

"The missionary who emerges from the extended orientation program will not necessarily know things that the veteran does not know," Dr. Fletcher explains. "But he will learn them earlier and without some of the cost paid by others. It is the veteran's experience and his wisdom that we are going to attempt to make a part of the new missionary's life at the very outset of his career."

Dr. Fletcher says the extended training period will give vertical expansion to the missions cause while an increasing number of missionaries are giving horizontal expansion. The Board's provision for the sixteen-week orientation affirms the unique demands of the missionary effort in the context of volatile nationalism.

Christian people should be missionaries wherever they are, whether their journey is by way of military, government, or industrial vehicles. But underlying this corporate witness for Christ is the need for a highly-trained hard core of professionals who can consolidate the results of all.

The new missionary who is expected to emerge from the orientation will have learned much in close interpersonal relationships, and his life should have a spiritual dimension unattainable outside such a unique experience.

Jesse C. Fletcher, Richmond, secretary for missionary personnel for the Foreign Mission Board



At an orientation conference last summer, ninety-nine missionaries, missionary associations and candidates were led by thirty furloughing missionaries, Board staff members and a specialist in pastoral care.



Call to Prayer

Prepared by Mrs. Charles A. Maddry

1 THURSDAY But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. *Jeremiah 31:33* (read vv. 27-34).

More than 750 full-time (plus approximately 50 part-time) Southern Baptist chaplains are serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Veterans Administration, hospitals, institutions, and industries. Pray for chaplains.

Pray for L. E. Johns, Casa Grande, Mrs. A. A. Moore, Flagstaff, Mrs. Ted Trent, Chinle, Ariz., Ind. ev.; Mrs. C. E. Harvey, Brazil, J. H. Teel, Pakistan, ev.; F. J. Snyder, East Africa, M. E. Fitz, Peru, ed.

2 FRIDAY So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me. *Ezekiel 33:7* (read vv. 1-11).

"Our son has a thirteen-year-old friend who plays with him every afternoon," wrote Don Redmon, missionary in Costa Rica. "This boy brought me a Bible story and asked that I translate it into Spanish for him. This was a perfect opportunity to witness, and prayerfully I made use of it. Pray that he will soon come to know Christ as Saviour."

Pray for D. H. Redmon, Costa Rica, Mrs. C. B. Clark, Venezuela, Mrs. M. M. Alexander, Jr., Argentina, Mrs. W. E. Matheny, Peru, ev.; R. B. Wyatt, Jr., Chile, Mrs. W. L. DuVal, Nigeria, ed.

3 SATURDAY Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this. *Isaiah 9:7* (read 11:1-9).

Rev. and Mrs. Harmon Popham are the only evangelists serving among approximately 1,500 Ute Indians on the Uintah-Ouray Reservation near Roosevelt, Utah.

Missionaries are listed on their birthdays. Address — DIRECTOR OF MISSIONARY PERSONNEL, 1100 Iron Mountain Road, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23236, and to HOME MISSIONS.

Pray for Harmon Popham, Roosevelt, Utah, Ind. ev.; R. L. Harris, Bermuda, LeRoy Albright, Malawi, ev.; Mrs. J. L. Gerloff, Sr., Liberia, MA; Annice Whaley, Jordan, MI.

SUNDAY December 4 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. *1 Peter 4:16* (read vv. 12-19).

Today is the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. Let us make it a week dedicated to heartfelt praying. Will you read and encourage others to read this magazine? Will you go to the church to be with fellow Christians and pray for all foreign missions causes. Pray for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The Convention-wide goal is \$14,500,000.

Pray for Mrs. W. D. Bender, Nigeria, W. E. Vriel, Bahamas, ed.; E. C. Valerius, Brazil, Mrs. C. W. Applewhite, Indonesia, ev.; Lydia Earl Greene, China-Hawaii-Malaysia, ret.; R. A. Mobley, Colo., MM.

5 MONDAY Casting all your care upon him: for he careth for you. *1 Peter 5:7* (read vv. 1-11).

"Behold Him As Healer" is the theme today for the week of prayer.

While Dot Scott was serving as a special project nurse in Baptist Tuberculosis Hospital, Mbeya, Tanzania, she wrote: "There have been more than twenty conversions of patients in the hospital this year. Two of these were Mawa tribesmen." Pray for them.

Pray for Sue Snider, Ghana, BA; Mrs. T. A. Hicks, Nigeria, G. W. Postlas, Germany, A. C. Scanlon, Guatemala, Mrs. E. E. Hasteley, Mexico, Mrs. M. J. Bradshaw, Japan, ev.; Allen Orr, Philippines, MI; Kathryn White, Hong Kong, ed.; H. L. Willis, Thailand, MD; Mrs. L. J. Saunders, Taos, N.M., Sp. sp. ev.

6 TUESDAY Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord. *2 Peter 1:2* (read vv. 1-11).

Dr. John H. McCombe, Jr., executive secretary for

church missions for the American Bible Society, told a Ridgecrest conference during Foreign Missions Conference last June that all Christian churches in the world gave less than \$15 million last year for translation, production, and distribution of God's Word in all countries.

"Behold Him As Teacher" is today's theme. In the Bible we can find the example of the Master Teacher, Jesus the Saviour. Let us pray that more Bibles will be available for the whole world.

Pray for H. E. Sharpe, Charleston, S.C., CD; Mrs. D. H. LeSueur, Mexico, ret.; F. D. Stull, Peru, Carol Leigh Humphries, Nigeria, Mrs. R. V. Calcote, Japan, ev.; Mrs. R. F. Ricketson, Philippines, ed.

7 WEDNESDAY The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished. *2 Peter 2:9* (read vv. 1-9).

"Behold Him As Preacher" is our Wednesday theme for this Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. The preaching of the Word of God is central in the business of Christ's kingdom. Pray for those who preach in His name.

Pray for W. W. Donehoo, Colombia, Mrs. C. H. Gilbert, Mexico, K. D. Shelton, Peru, Mrs. S. D. Sprinkle, Jr., Costa Rica, Mrs. R. W. Fields, Israel, W. P. Clemmons, Italy, ev.; Mrs. T. E. Sommerkamp, Jr., Switzerland, MA; F. R. Scott, Philippines, ed.; Mrs. Tony Jajola, Albuquerque, N.M.; Ind. ev.; Paul Rogosin, Calif., ret.

8 THURSDAY Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of person ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness. *2 Peter 3:11* (read vv. 1-14).

The intent of our lives needs to be the theme for today: "Behold Him As Saviour." In all we do we should strive to point others to Jesus. He is able to save anyone, anywhere, anytime. We are His ambassadors. Pray for the lost.

Pray for R. H. Culpepper, Japan, ed.; Mrs. Jerry Hobbs, Thailand, Mrs. C. W. Whitten, Spain, Mrs. O. W. Bandy, Guyana, Mrs. Juan Acosta, Panama, ev.; Mrs. Lise Flores, San Marcos, Tex., Sp. sp. ev.

9 FRIDAY But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. *1 John 1:7* (read vv. 1-10).

In recognizing the transformation of two dozen persons in Karamoja, Uganda "of strange and primitive and spiritually destitute people" (according to missionary G. Webster Carroll) our hearts joyfully respond, "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation," which is the theme for this final day of corporate worship during the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. Pray for Mr. Carroll and his witness to these tribespeople.

Pray for Mrs. J. G. Conley, Tanzania, Mrs. R. J. Hall, Nigeria, W. C. Fricke, Mrs. A. C. Muller, Mexico, Mrs. B. R. Francis, Mrs. J. E. Troop, J. M. Wilson, Brazil, F. D. McElhinney, Uruguay, J. O. Teel, Jr., Argentina, R. W.

Terry, Iceland, W. L. Ensland, Pakistan, ev.; Mrs. R. E. Beddoe, China, ret.; J. C. Pou, Liberia, MA.

10 SATURDAY But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. *Isaiah 53:5* (read vv. 4-9, 12).

Has your family prayed about foreign missions needs this week? Have you and your family given an offering? Are you satisfied with it? Said a missionary: "It is most satisfying to realize that at least a portion of even the youngest child's gifts—plus God's tithe—given through our churches, comes to help our work."

Pray for Mrs. J. W. Trimble, Lebanon, Mrs. P. H. Miller, Nigeria, Mrs. W. R. Hintze, Ecuador, ev.; B. C. Archison, J. A. Harrington, Brazil, J. A. Moore, Switzerland, ed.; T. W. Hill, El Paso, Tex., pub.; Mrs. W. E. Allen, Brazil, Mrs. Antonio Martinez, Cuba, ret.; Mrs. Hubert Neely, Memphis, Tenn., RM.

SUNDAY December 11 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. *1 John 2:1* (read vv. 1-12).

The purpose of this week is that we shall BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD! And having beheld him that we grow in knowledge and thanksgiving for Jesus, the Healer, Teacher, Preacher, Saviour. Have you grown in your love for him this week? Have you committed your life, your children, your wealth to him?

Pray for Mrs. M. T. Bond, Hong Kong, Mrs. D. M. Carroll, Jr., Argentina, W. H. Ichter, Brazil, B. R. Lawton, Italy, ed.; L. A. Lovegren, Jordan, MD; W. H. Parkman, Philippines, BA; Panny Starns, Thailand, pub.; S. B. Sears, Malaysia, Mrs. R. L. Smith, Indonesia, Mrs. A. L. Nations, Japan, Mrs. J. P. Smyth, Brazil, ev.; Maaxy G. White, Brazil, ret.; S. M. Taylor, Dermott, Ark., Negro ev.

12 MONDAY Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God; therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. *1 John 3:1* (read vv. 1-10).

The challenge of overseas missions must not blind us to millions of lost in our country. In the city of Los Angeles there are almost one million Spanish-speaking people from South America, Mexico, Texas, and other places. Mrs.

ag. agriculture	med. medical
BA business administration	MJ missionary journeyman
CD center director	MM mountain missionary
ED education	PD pastor director
ev. evangelism	pub. publication
Fr. French	ret. retired
Ind. Indian	RM rescue mission
int. international center	RN nurse
JR juvenile rehabilitation	SM superintendent of missions
MA missionary associate	soc. social work
MC mission center	Sp. sp. Spanish speaking
MD doctor	te. teahouse

Eugene S. Wolfe, missionary, wrote: "This is a challenging field. My husband is interested in starting new work. We have so few strong churches."

Pray for Mrs. Eugene Wolfe, Los Angeles, Calif., Sp. sp. ev.; J. L. Nolette, Los Angeles, Calif., int.; Mrs. Genus Crenshaw, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Ind. ev.; Vena Aguillard, La., Mrs. F. C. Rowland, Tex., ret.; Mrs. H. K. Middleton, Chile, Mrs. G. M. Swicegood, Brazil, T. L. Watson, Uruguay, L. G. Legg, Nigeria, ev.; Mrs. W. J. Williams, Nigeria, RN.

13 TUESDAY *We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death 1 John 3:14 (read vv. 11-24).*

Southern Baptist missionary Bonnie Moore, director of Baptist literacy work in Northern Nigeria, estimates that in 97 percent of the Hausa-language Baptist churches where she is working, only the pastor and perhaps his wife can read. It is her hope to change this situation.

Pray for Bonnie Moore, Nigeria, ed.; W. S. Wester, Malawi, H. W. Barker, Taiwan, Mrs. G. W. Pinkston, Indonesia, Mrs. J. B. Braington, Peru, Anna Wallerman, Brazil, ev.; W. O. Cottingham, St. Rose, La., Fr. ev.

14 WEDNESDAY *And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him 1 John 4:16 (read vv. 7-21).*

This is "The Year of the Bible" in observance of the American Bible Society's 150th Anniversary. To many this emphasis on Bible distribution has made it a "found" book. Daily Bible reading and study are means whereby Christians grow. Will you make your family altar more meaningful?

Pray for Mrs. Duesdedith Escobar, Panama, Mrs. W. H. Gray, Jr., Mexico, Mrs. G. S. Lozuk, Venezuela, R. L. Thetford, Philippines, ev.; G. A. McNeely, Spain, ed.; Mrs. F. W. Paterson, El Paso, Tex., pub.

15 THURSDAY *These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the son of God 1 John 5:13 (read vv. 1-13).*

Mrs. Thomas Lowe and her husband are trying to win to Christ the Chinese in the Crenshaw area of Los Angeles, California. The little church which ministers directly to the Chinese is not large enough. A new site and a larger building is needed, and there is a dearth of workers among Chinese. *Pray for Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, for adequate facilities and dedicated leaders.*

Pray for C. E. Perez, Cuba, H. M. Flournoy, Brazil, G. D. Phillips, Rhodesia, Mrs. F. R. Scott, Philippines, ev.; D. E. Mitchell, Indonesia, BA; L. R. Smith, Hong Kong, MD.

16 FRIDAY *I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father 2 John 4 (read vv. 1-13).*

About a year ago Rev. William L. Smith wrote from Brazil: "I would like for you to know some direct results of your praying and giving. We are building a new dining hall with money given through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. This addition will prove a blessing to boys and girls, and men and women throughout this state for years to come. Also, as a result of the offering, we have assisted churches in buying property on which to construct buildings to house developing new congregations."

Pray for W. L. Smith, Brazil, Mrs. A. R. Haylock, Honduras, Mrs. G. W. Carroll, Uganda, Mrs. C. G. Cullin, Ghana, ev.; Mrs. J. A. Tumblin, Sr., Brazil, ret.; Mrs. Elizabeth Morris, Panama, ev.; Daniel Elum, Tex., M. E. Elder, Cuero, N.M., Ind. ev.

17 SATURDAY *Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts Malachi 3:1 (read Luke 1:67-80).*

In the rapidly growing metropolitan area of Kansas City, Kansas, there are at least fifteen points where existing churches should help to establish new churches, chapels, or missions. A good will center is greatly needed. The Home Mission Board is interested in this project both from the standpoint of its service to the immediate community and as a training center for Midwestern Seminary students. Rev. Paul Elledge is superintendent of missions for the Baptist Association, Kansas City. *Pray for Kansas City.*

Pray for Bonna Fay Whitten, Paraguay, MI, Mrs. H. F. Davis, Brazil, Mrs. R. L. Thetford, Philippines, ev.

SUNDAY

December 18 *Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints Jude 3 (read vv. 1-3, 17-25).*

Although a Five Year Program of Evangelistic Missionary Advance in Mexico actually began in 1965, a great deal of promotion still needs to be done. The churches feel need for more information before they are ready to accept goals and enter into plans for reaching the lost. *Pray for Mexico Baptists.*

Pray for Mrs. Pedro Arrambide, Casa Grande, Ariz., Sp. sp. ev.; Catherine Chappell, Brazil, soc.; Mrs. F. A. R. Morgan, Brazil, ret.; Mrs. R. E. Gilstrap, Sr., Guatemala, E. B. Kinder, Jr., Venezuela, Mrs. J. E. Humphrey, Nigeria, ev.; T. K. Edwards, Nigeria, MD.

19 MONDAY *I am he that liveth, and was dead, and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death Revelation 1:18 (read vv. 1-18).*

Among the recent trends in medical missionary services is the development of a team approach. More hospital administrators, pharmacists, dietitians, laboratory technologists, and other medical personnel work with missionary doctors and nurses. *Pray for them.*

Pray for Mrs. Bateman, Kenya, ag.; H. L. Adams, Nigeria, B. D. Bacon, Liberia, R. E. Gordon, Philippines, R. C. Hensley, Bahamas, P. E. Patter, Dominican Republic, C. W. Shroy, Argentina, Mrs. B. E. Cader, Brazil, Mrs. P. C. Barnes, Brazil, ret.

TUESDAY *Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation in your days: he that is faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life Revelation 2:10 (read vv. 1-11).*

Last June the first Southern Baptist missionaries entered Turkey. Rev. and Mrs. James F. Leeper are working among an English-language Baptist congregation in the capital city of Ankara. This congregation was organized more than two years ago as a Christian fellowship, drawing its members primarily from US military personnel in Ankara, though most of the members have been Southern Baptists. *Pray for Turkey.*

Pray for Clarence Thurman, Jr., Malaysia, S. P. Howard, Jr., D. W. O'Reagan, Japan, Mrs. G. A. McNeely, Spain, ev.; L. L. Johnson, Brazil, ret.; Mrs. A. J. Bagby, Brazil, ed.; L. G. Bredem, Colombia, MD; J. D. Crabb, San Antonio, Jose Flores, San Marcos, Tex., Mrs. Alexander Powell, Lutz, Fla., Mrs. Daniel Gomez, Planada, Calif., Sp. sp. ev.; Donald Phlegar, Stockton, Calif., Filipino, ev.; Mrs. Toshio Sakamoto, Sunnyvale, Calif., Japanese, ev.

21 WEDNESDAY *Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me Revelation 3:20 (read vv. 14-22).*

Foundations for a Bible class at Da Nang Air Force Base, Vietnam, were laid in Biloxi, Mississippi. The First Baptist Church of Biloxi organized a special class for young Vietnamese airmen studying at Keesler Air Force Base. Just before the time for assignments to be made for these young men, Rev. Lewis Myers was invited to speak in the First Baptist Church of Biloxi. After the service, the pastor invited the airmen and Mr. Myers to his home.

Soon after returning to Vietnam, Mrs. Myers was buying some cookies in a shop in Saigon when two young men greeted her in good English. Surprised, she wanted to know where they had learned the language. When they mentioned Keesler, Mrs. Myers said, "My husband spoke in Biloxi not long before our return to Vietnam." "Then you must mean Mr. Myers at the First Baptist Church. I was there!" replied Mr. Luy. And it was in the home of Airman Luy that the Bible class began! *Thank God for his miracle.*

Pray for Mrs. J. E. Mahaffey, Mrs. J. G. Morris, Thailand, J. W. Trimble, Lebanon, Frances Horton, Japan, C. S. Cadwallader, Jr., Guatemala, Mrs. T. E. Bryant, Brazil, J. G. Vestal, Chile, ev.; Lois Hart, Chile, RN; R. M. Parham, Jr., Nigeria, BA; Anna Cowan, Jordan, ed.; Mrs. J. L. Gehlbach, Rio Grande City, Tex., language instruction.

22 THURSDAY *And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, my throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne Revelation 4:2 (read vv. 1-11).*

ROYAL SERVICE • DECEMBER 1966

American servicemen expected to withdraw from NATO bases in France, yet those in the English-language First Baptist Church of Toul bought property in the name of the French Baptist Federation to develop a French-language Baptist church. The property was purchased with \$3,600 in cash. This money was that which the English-language church had been saving for a building program. *Thank God for Christian servicemen.*

Pray for H. W. Schweinsberg, Spain, J. L. Riffey, Brazil, ev.; Mrs. R. L. Carlisle, Jr., Uruguay, B. H. Walker, Colombia, R. L. West, Nigeria, ed.; Virginia Cobb, Lebanon, Mrs. N. H. Eudaly, El Paso, Tex., pub.; Gladys Mc-Lanahan, Tex., Mrs. Mallie Swetnam, La., ret.; Marvin Berry, Sterling, Ill., Sp. sp. ev.; Maxwell Johnson, Baltimore, Md., CD; H. E. Wooten, Carmichael, Calif., SM.

23 FRIDAY *Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing Revelation 5:12 (read vv. 1-14).*

How would you like to celebrate your birthday in jail? The jail in Havana, Cuba, has not kept David Fite and his father-in-law, Dr. Herbert Caudill, missionaries of the Home Mission Board, from witnessing to the power of God's love. *Pray for Cuban Baptists.*

Pray for J. D. Fite, Romeo Gonzalez, Cuba, ev.; Mrs. Frank Alonzo, Tex., Sp. sp. ev.; Mrs. V. E. Sydow, Jr., D. E. Turner, Brazil, W. E. Matheny, Peru, H. B. Lee, Jr., France, Mrs. R. N. Nash, Philippines, ev.; Mrs. J. C. Willmon, Lebanon, ed.; Mavis Pate, Pakistan, RN; C. D. Langford, Hong Kong, J. T. Adams, Tanzania, MD; Mrs. M. L. Garrett, Rhodesia, med.

24 SATURDAY *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord Luke 2:11 (read vv. 8-20).*

This is Christmas Eve. It is the day before Christmas when we observe the birth of Christ. What are you making of Christmas? Tonight or tomorrow will you read again Luke 2:8-20. And then will you follow this beautiful account of Christ's birth by reading Matthew 11:1-6, which shows Jesus in manhood. Will you sing "O Come, All Ye Faithful?"

Pray for Mrs. Thomas Lowe, Los Angeles, Calif., Chinese, ev.; C. R. Rogers, Indonesia, Mrs. Glenn Patton, Jordan, H. J. Palmer, Jr., Nigeria, Mrs. H. R. Littleton, Ghana, ev.; H. K. Middleton, Chile, ed.

SUNDAY

December 25 *After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands Revelation 7:9 (read vv. 9-17).*

What can this day mean to others because you are at home, at school, visiting, with your family? Is there some word of appreciation you can speak to others?

telephone call? a brief visit? Are there students or other internationals who are away from home and living in your neighborhood? Can you express to them friendliness in Jesus' name? Will you pray about whatever contact you decide to make outside your family and then go at once on deeds of kindness?

Pray for Mrs. A. W. Hancock, Okla., ret.; Neil Jones, El Paso, Tex., US-2; M. G. Garcia, Eagle Pass, Tex., Sp. sp. ev.; W. J. Blair, El Paso, Tex., pub.; Mrs. R. E. Johnson, Sr., Brazil, ed.; Mrs. J. N. Young, Brazil, D. B. Ray, Korea; R. L. Shelton, Mrs. R. R. Stewart, Thailand; Mrs. R. A. Holifield, Italy, ev.; T. W. McMillan, Tanzania, sec.

26 MONDAY And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come the salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night Revelation 12:10 (read vv. 7-12).

The Metropolitan Baptist Church, Cambridge, Massachusetts, provides a special ministry to students at Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Pray for this church, its pastor, and its work.

Pray for J. W. Hughston, Cambridge, Mass., PD; N. H. Brown, Gardena, Calif., Japanese ev.; J. D. Carter, Brazil, ag.; Mrs. J. W. Shepard, Sr., Brazil, ret.; Z. J. Deal, Jr., Colombia, Mrs. C. A. Tope, Kenya, J. C. Walker, Rhodesia, Mrs. J. C. Abell, Jr., Nigeria, ev.; Antonina Cansoneri, Valda Long, Janyce Rader, Joyce Rader, Nigeria, RN; J. B. Gaultney, Nigeria, med.

27 TUESDAY And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues Revelation 18:4 (read vv. 1-8).

At the present time Southern Baptists have twenty hospitals in sixteen different countries. Physicians working for short periods of time are needed to relieve the heavy load of missionary doctors. Pray about these possibilities.

Pray for J. R. Moseley, Nigeria, MD; Ruth Ford, Indonesia, RN; Mrs. J. A. Smith, Japan, MA; D. C. Askew, Japan, G. C. Tennyson, Portugal, M. M. Alexander, Jr., Argentina, Mrs. R. H. Wolf, Mexico, ev.; Jose Perez, Panama, Ind. ev.

28 WEDNESDAY And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth Revelation 19:6 (read vv. 1-6, 11-16).

In Mississippi Rev. and Mrs. J. J. St. John work through Baptist churches all over the state and also with two schools for the deaf in Jackson. Mrs. St. John's specific responsibility is to teach the deaf in the WMU about missions. Pray for this work.

Pray for Mrs. Jerry St. John, Miss., deaf ev.; J. B. Silva, Cuba, ret.; Mrs. S. L. Goldfinch, Sr., Costa Rica, J. D. Hollis, Hong Kong, Mrs. J. D. Smith, Indonesia,

Mrs. C. F. Eaglesfield, Nigeria, ev.; Vello, Jane Switzerland, ed.

29 THURSDAY Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years Revelation 20:6 (read vv. 1-6).

The church development ministry is a part of the program of rural-urban missions of the Home Mission Board. These ministries include Baptist centers, gospel work, mission centers, weekday activities, juvenile rehabilitation, Catholic information, and Jewish work. Are there persons of special need in your community who need your help?

Pray for Jean Fabras, Louisville, Ky., MC; Roger Wren, Puerto Rico, Sp. sp. ev.; Ann Swanson, El Paso, Tex., pub.; Charles Helms, Peru, MI; Mrs. H. R. Tucker, Jr., Venezuela, Mrs. J. G. Partain, Tanzania, ev.; Motun Philip, Nigeria, Mrs. E. H. Walker, Philippines, ed.

30 FRIDAY And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof Revelation 21:23 (read vv. 1-10, 22-27).

The Baptist mission in Winslow, Arizona, ministers to the Navajo school children from an Indian reservation during the school year. Rev. George D. Hook and his wife, who have charge of this mission, have organized teaching and preaching points at Dilcon, Finger Point, and Leupp. They are now involved in a building project at Leupp.

Mr. Hook wrote: "Our special need at present is additional man power to help in the work of this field. I hope to develop these reservation preaching points into mission outposts manned by Navajo lay preachers. We need responsible men for the task." Pray about this need.

Pray for George Hook, Winslow, Ariz.; Mrs. H. D. Shield, Gardena, Calif., Ind. ev.; J. T. Pte, El Paso, Tex., pub.; Eva Sanders, Nigeria, RN; J. L. McPhail, India MD; Mary Sue Meuth, Indonesia, BA.

31 SATURDAY And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thine shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve Luke 4:8 (read vv. 3:21-22; 4:1-13).

The gradual growth of the number of superintendents of missions (or associational missionaries) has greatly aided in the organization and strengthening of Baptist churches. This is especially true in pioneer areas like the North Bay and Redwood Empire Baptist Associations, just north of San Francisco Bay. These two associations include five counties with about 650,000 people, but there are only about 40 Baptist churches to minister to them. An associational missionary, Rev. Elton F. Vickers, is concerned with buying now suitable sites for church buildings for future congregations.

Pray for Cary Harden, Ohio, SM; Norman H. Hill, Ill., US-2; V. C. Cuellar, Tex., ret.; W. B. McNeal, Mrs. R. E. Smith, Brazil, ev.; B. T. Griffin, Nigeria, ed.

How would having The Commission in our home make us know more about missions?

This is easy to answer. You know it already, but it's helpful to remind ourselves. *The Commission* brings you firsthand and current news of world need as seen by missionaries and other people. Through this monthly magazine of the Foreign Mission Board come into your home and hear thoughts, convictions, and heartthrobs of missionaries.

Testimonies in *The Commission* of newly appointed missionaries may often stir the hearts of young persons in your home and church to see need. Some say that they hear and respond to God's call for missionary service because of reading *The Commission*.

The monthly feature, "Epistles from Today's Apostles around the World," from today's missionaries reads like Paul's missionary journeys, and stirs the imagination with the possibilities of new opportunities.

As a missions-hearted woman reads *The Commission*, she renews her conviction that she has responsibility for witnessing. However overwhelming it may seem, she sees need as immediate. This foreign missions journal for all Southern Baptists pricks our conscience and leads us to enlarge our areas of service as children of God.

You won't regret it if you begin now to receive *The Commission* into your home. Check to see if it is on the shelf or table in your church library. The price is \$1.50 a year for individual subscription from *The Commission*, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230.

What does the Cooperative Program do?

The Cooperative Program is another helper for every Baptist who longs to help carry out Christ's Commission. It is a forty-one-year-old Southern Baptist plan of

giving. Through it we have found the way to support missions work in state, home, and foreign fields.

If every church member could become convinced that the Cooperative Program is his program, Southern Baptists would realize new life in their churches for which we all pray. Every dollar received is divided among all causes supported by our denomination. How does it work? When churches make up their annual budgets, they set aside a certain percentage of annual income for the Cooperative Program. This is sent each month to state Baptist headquarters. Part of this money stays in the states. A portion is sent by the states to the office of Dr. Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee, in Nashville, who then disburses the money to seven seminaries, the Executive Committee, Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Annuity Board, Southern Baptist hospitals, SBC Foundation, Education Commission, Christian Life Commission, Brotherhood Commission, Historical Commission, Radio-TV Commission, Stewardship Commission, Public Affairs Committee, Baptist World Alliance.

Last year Southern Baptists gave \$637,958,846. Of this amount, \$22,570,858 reached Dr. Routh's office for disbursement. The remainder stayed in our states and churches.

"M" Night: What is it?

December "M" Night is planned annually to focus attention on the church and her organizations as being "Mobilized for Action." Attendance is high across the Convention, as thousands of people gather in associational meetings for the purpose of making a worthwhile spiritual contribution to the lives of Baptists. It is sponsored by Training Union.

by Marie Mathis

IS
THIS

YOUR
QUESTION?



Study in December

Study in Circle
OR FOR SECOND WMS MEETING

Medical Missions in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen

by Eunice Allison

Outline for Circle Meeting

Circle Chairman to Charge

Call to Prayer (read Scripture passage, giving missionary information, and praying for missionaries)
Hym: "The Great Physician"

Business Forum

Promotional Features (see Forecaster)

Program Chairman to Charge

Study "Medical Missions in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen," or mission study book, *Beneath the Himalayas*. McPhail, 85 cents, and Teacher's Guide, 25 cents, from Baptist Book Stores

STUDY QUESTION: How has God used medical missions to open doors for a Christian witness in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen?

Program Chairman, Get Ready: Check your files. Do you need the following leaflets from Foreign Mission Board, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230: "Jordan: Land of Archer," "Horizons of Expansion in Europe and Middle East, 1966," "Southern Baptist Missions in the Middle East" (map).

For background reading and reference, your church library may supply copies of the books: *World Within a World*, Meason; *Mission Doctor*, J. T. McRae; *The Big Difference*, Lovegren; and *Christianity and World Religions*, Copeland. See Dr. James Young's account of God's call to Yemen on page 2. Look in recent issues of *The Commission* for enlarging and enriching study.

If circle is large, divide into three groups each to study a country. Provide in addition to ROYAL SERVICE,

current magazines, and books above marked at proper pages. Appoint leaders who will enlist women in study, making that they report from the point of view of your aim, which you have written on poster board or streamer in place where all can see. One from each group can report. Program chairman will need to have ready questions to bring out information if groups do not provide sufficient information.

On a table place a child's nursing kit, a doctor's kit, or dolls dressed as nurse or doctor. Participants may introduce their topics by showing a book or magazine and saying: "I read . . ." "Did you see . . ." Display map and plan for prayer period.

Introduction

Before we consider the influence of medical missions in these three countries of the Middle East, we will examine the Scriptures, as well as Foreign Mission Board concern for physical needs.

God's concern for man's physical health was evident in Old Testament times. Diagnosis and inclusion of contagious diseases, as well as sanitary laws, are clearly spelled out in Leviticus 13 and 14. God gave to the nomadic wanderers, the children of Israel, specific instructions concerning health practices and charged their leaders with responsibility for the health of the people.

Likewise, in his ministry Christ emphasized over and over again his concern for the whole man. Through miracles of healing he taught that his gospel of redemption from sin's curse includes a compassionate concern for man's physical health. Listen to these passages: *Matthew* (read *Mat. 10:5-8; 9:27-29; 25:31*); Jesus' tender heart was moved with compassion not only

for suffering men, women, but also for those sick and disabled who ministered to their needs, both physical and spiritual.

The concern which Southern Baptists have for the millions of sick people overseas has grown through the years. Shortly after the Foreign Mission Board was established in 1845, the first physician was appointed to go to China. This was in 1846. But Dr. J. Saxon Jones was downed in Hong Kong harbor, never having set foot on China soil. Four years later Dr. George W. Lupton reached China where he served for nine years. But the earlier medical missionaries had not gone out in answer to nationals. They were sent primarily to care for fellow missionaries and their families. The pioneers, however, seeing the need for a physician to the people, soon were doctoring them also and found that medicine opened doors for the gospel. The sick who came seeking physical help often returned for spiritual guidance.

Dr. T. W. Ayers, doctor in China, quoted a fellow physician: "Were the offices of the doctors merely a bribe to induce men to listen to the gospel, they would soon lose their power to draw men to Christ. We believe medical missions to be an outcome of that humanity which Christ taught and lived. The ministry is itself a Christianite."

This is basically the philosophy of the Foreign Mission Board in its staffs and maintains twenty hospitals and fifty-two clinics and dispensaries in twenty-four countries. Among these are three areas in the Middle East—Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen.

Today we want to ask ourselves: "How has God used medical missions to open doors for a Christian witness in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen?"

Perhaps an initial observation is that basically our work in all three places began with a medical witness. Let us look first at Jordan.

Jordan

Jordan has a deeply meaningful religious association in the minds of millions of people today, for the country's territory west of the Jordan River was once a part of ancient Palestine and still includes the Old City of Jerusalem. Muslim Arabs first conquered it in the seventh century. In 1948 after World War II, Jordan became a free Islamic nation.

The government is making some progress in eradication of several diseases and in bringing some medical care to rural areas. In this comparatively new country the witness of medical work is that there are those who care for you. Such a witness results in some seeking to know the witness.

Beyond medical missions began in Jordan when the Pilgrym Group divided time between Beirut and Trans-Jordan. With simple home remedies, they relieved human suffering, told the story of the Great Physician, and were joyously received.

On June 1, 1952, Southern Baptists acquired our first hospital in the Middle East. It had been established at Ajloun, Jordan, by independent English missionaries about 1950. Because of conditions at the close of World War II, Dr. Charles F. McLean, the founder, sought some group to take over his work. He offered it to Southern Baptists.

Dr. Lorne Brown, who was studying Arabic in Beirut, Lebanon, visited the hospital at Ajloun. When his report to the Foreign Mission Board was favorable, negotiations were completed and Southern Baptists entered the open door, beginning medical work in this small town which today looks like it might have been lifted out of Bible times.

During the first year of operation of the hospital, the sick from seventy-five villages of north Jordan walked, rode donkeys, or camels to enter the hospital.

At the hospital elective surgery is performed twice weekly. Medications are dispensed at the hospital since the nearest pharmacy is in Amman, the capital city. An accredited course for practical nurses and laboratory technicians and the school of nursing are important parts of the medical program maintained for nationals.

Of telling influence is the evangelistic work carried on at the hospital. It includes daily chapel services for the medical staff, ward and clinic services for patients, and bedside visits.

In 1962 when the hospital had completed ten years of service, there were noted many tangible results. For example, three Jordanian girls who had attended the Baptist secondary school also at Ajloun were enrolled in the hospital school of nursing. Each had sisters who had already finished from the same school. This was a real accomplishment in a land where women are considered inferior, required to do heavy work, and seldom educated. "But for the hospital here, the Baptist girls' school at Ajloun might never have been opened," one missionary commented. And this is true. Educational missionaries were added as staff increased. Today there is also a fine Baptist church in Ajloun, where there is encouraging work with the women alone.

The hospital's service record for the year 1965 shows 1,455 patients and 10,735 outpatients were treated. As a result of medical work, Jordanians have come to trust, love, and respect Southern Baptists. Baptists have been granted permits for schools, their churches are registered with the government, and permission is granted to perform funerals and marriages in their churches. The national government took note of the hospital's service to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in 1964. A pilot for King Hussein was injured and brought to the hospital for treatment. The king came by to see about the pilot and later wrote a letter commending the doctors and nurses.

Maliki is an example of how lives touched by the hospital bear fruit. This young woman entered the hospital

in 1933 as a diabetic tubercular patient. During a long illness she heard the gospel preached, saw it in action, and finally acknowledged Christ as Saviour. Later she was baptized and remained to work at the telephone exchange. Her short Christian life ended on Christmas Day in 1965, but her quiet influence bore fruit.

In Jordan when a baby is born, he is registered with the government according to the religion of his parents. Islam is the state religion, and every person who is not a Muslim is called "Christian." Missionary endeavors have been limited since it is considered illegal to evangelize non-Christians.

When Jesus gave the Great Commission, he included the hard as well as easy places. He includes Muslims, and most people in Jordan are registered as Muslims.

Dr. Baker J. Cauthen, speaking of the Middle East, said, "This part of the world presents a cold shoulder toward a deaf ear—to what people say with words. Here, the people are looking to see what we do, not just what we say. . . . What we've got to do is reach out in love so genuine that the world will say, 'This love cannot be understood until you experience it.'"

The story of medical missions in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen is a miracle of doors opened by God for this unrepentant witness. And from this witness other doors have opened and other work is developing.

Thank God for an open door in Jordan, for four missionary doctors (Dean T. Fitzgerald, L. August Lovens, John A. Roper, Jr., Mrs. Roper), one national doctor, five missionary nurses (Anne Dwyer, Mrs. Dean T. Fitzgerald, Dora Jane Sutton, Maxine Lindsay, Marie Popp), and nine national nurses serving in the hospital and the clinics. Thank God for the girls' school with almost three hundred enrolled, and for the Baptist church at Ajlous. These grew out of the work first established at the hospital.

Gaza

Gaza is mentioned in the minds of Bible students with Philistines and especially with Samson who pulled down a temple in Gaza destroying himself and the Philistines. The Gaza Strip is twenty-five miles long and ten miles wide, under the jurisdiction of Egypt.

Today, the Gaza Strip, situated between Israel and Egypt, is under United Nations supervision and is populated mainly by Palestinian refugees who arrived after the 1948 war in that area. The 395,000 population is densely packed.

Christian Baptists are at work among Palestinian refugees in Gaza.

There is little to encourage the Arab refugee. He has no money, no land, no flour, rice, and oil. He has a small one-room shack in which to rear his family.

The missionary of a refugee's life is not broken by so little as a ride in a car, a movie, or a brief vacation. He is content, his family's concerns over the loss of his

ration card almost overshadows their sorrows.

Our Baptist Hospital in Gaza, acquired in 1954 and manned by missionaries, serves the refugees. He is treated as an individual of infinite worth in God's sight. This makes a tremendous impression on the discriminated people who have many health problems.

Often babies are brought to the hospital so malnourished and dehydrated that they are not strong enough even to cry. Their eyes look out of old wrinkled faces.

From experience the Baptist nurses know that it will take months of patient care to bring the baby back to health. They have even been asked, "Why do you bother? Let him die. There are too many mouths to worry over such a one."

The nurses reply, "But God made him and loves him. Look at the crying mother in the corner so fearful that we will feel that it is too much to bother. No, we must do the best we can."

As the months go by, the baby usually responds. The nurses are reluctant to permit the baby to return home until he has learned to smile once more, for a smile seems to be a sign he will take up life again.

There is a small Baptist church in Gaza, where the hospital nurses attend. Many of the nurses come from Lebanon and Egypt, and some have been won to Christ and baptized while in Gaza. As they live in a Christian atmosphere, they become strong witnesses. Recently one nurse went to the country of Yemen. She will work there with Dr. James M. Young, Jr., in new medical work in that country.

A specialty at the Gaza hospital is surgery. In one year there are more than five thousand operations performed. The outpatients numbered 40,304 in 1965. These statistics represent people who have come face to face with a missionary acting out Christ's love and compassion under heart-breaking circumstances.

Medical work has opened the way for boys and girls clubs, Woman's Missionary Union, a small Sunday School, and an annual Vacation Bible School. Many of the children who attend the Bible school attend the Greek Orthodox faith.

One woman was baptized into the Baptist faith and suffered great persecutions because of her faith. She was forced to leave her home and viewed by her friends as a stranger. After more than four years of continuing cruel treatment, God has brought peace to her heart and she testifies witnessfully of her love for Christ. No longer does she question God's purpose for her life. She is a life makes a telling witness among the Arabs.

In Gaza there are three missionary doctors (Dr. T. Dickman, David C. Dorr, Merrill D. Moore), four national doctors, two missionary nurses (Ava McWhorter, Marilyn Kay Sheaffer), and ten national nurses. In addition there are seventy-five other people working at the hospital where 2,613 inpatients and 40,304 outpatients were treated in 1965.

Yemen

Only God could have opened the door in Yemen. (Only the resurrection of 1962, Yemen's five million people were isolated from the rest of the world. Today many changes are seen in their way of life.)

While missionary Dr. James M. Young, Jr., and family were serving in Gaza, they had an abiding conviction that God wanted them to serve him in Yemen. When the door in Yemen was opened, they were ready. (See *God's Miracles for Yemen*, p. 2.)

During the Suez Canal crisis in 1956, Dr. Young remained at the Gaza hospital when all other Americans were evacuated. For this he was commended by President Nasser of Egypt. Later in 1963 Dr. Young went to Yemen to talk with Mr. Ahmed Mohammy, the Minister of Health for Yemen, about the possibility of medical missions in his country.

When the invitation from Mr. Mohammy came to the Foreign Mission Board to enter Yemen with medical work, it could not go unheeded. Dr. John D. Hughey, Secretary for Europe and the Middle East, and Dr. Young went to Yemen. They reminded Mr. Mohammy that what Baptists did in Yemen would be done as Christians. Mr. Mohammy replied, "We are so much in need of medical care we cannot be discriminating."

The James Young family accepted the challenge and in 1964 moved to Yemen where there is only one doctor for every 156,000 persons.

According to Mrs. Young, the life of a woman in Yemen is hard. Sickness and death are commonplace for in a land where polygamy is common, heavily veiled women clean house and cook in the mornings and run or receive visitors in the afternoons. They sit on straw mats, rugs, or cushions and chew qat, a narcotic leaf. If a drink is served, it is usually qish made from the coffee bean hull.

The first nurse to join Dr. Young in his work was Maria Luisa Hidalgo, Spanish Baptist's first foreign missionary. Next came Jean Prutter, special project nurse, who says that her nursing has changed in practice but not in principle. "I hand out medicine from bottle tops, carry injections in my pockets, give water from cut-down Clorox bottles. But it's really a privilege to work here where need is so great." Since Jean Prutter's arrival, three have been added to the missionary staff. They are Dr. Byron and Anne Braly, and Carolyn McClellan.

Yemen's new Baptist Hospital is to be located at Jibla. The city is about forty miles north of Taiz, where Dr. Young began his work. About fifty thousand people live within a ten-mile radius of Jibla. The plan is that the hospital be ready for use by the end of 1967.

As a mission field, Yemen will not be easy. There is no money, no electricity, no telephone, no radio, no newspaper, no Sunday School and worship services, in addition to the day-by-day witness of the medical staff. So

far the work has been largely among English-language groups, but the day will come when love and prayer will open hearts of those who call Yemen home.

The greatest need in Yemen is for additional doctors and nurses. We must pray that Southern Baptist doctors and nurses will respond by giving a few years or a lifetime to witness for Christ in Yemen.

Conclusion

How has God used medical missions to open doors for a Christian witness in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen? (Let women recall facts and impressions.)

Both the hospitals in Jordan and Gaza were offered to Southern Baptists by other groups who could not financially maintain them. In the intervening years, Baptist churches, schools, a nursing school, and other work has developed in these countries.

Because one doctor's interest in Yemen was used of the Lord to open medical work in that isolated country, we are witnessing the beginning of a new work.

The faithful, loving work and witness of missionaries and national Christians are making an impact for Christ upon non-Christians in these countries. We do not know how God will use all these influences.

Period of Scripture and Directed Prayer

Dr. Baker J. Cauthen believes that we must not only continue to give more to missions, to work harder, and to organize for better work, but also that we must discover new dimensions in intercessory prayer.

"Some doors," says Dr. Cauthen, "are not going to open until they are opened by the power of the Holy Spirit."

What can we do for the non-Christians in the Middle East? Listen as I read Luke 2:10-11. (Allow time for answers after you have read from the Scriptures.) We can pray for those who are seeking to show people in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen that the Saviour has indeed come. Pray for the non-Christians in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen. Pray for the missionaries serving in these lands. Ask God to call doctors and nurses.

(Read 1 Cor. 15:57-58.) It is God's victory which we must expect in this part of the world. Often we might grow discouraged but for his assurance. Thank God that he has trusted us with the privilege of having a part in evangelizing the world. Pray we will not fail him.

(Read 1 Cor. 13:3, 2 Cor. 9:7.) A person must witness in love and give of himself and his means with gladness as he witnesses in hospitals, to ill neighbors and friends of God's love and power. Pray that each of us will be faithful in intercessory prayer. Pray that each of us will give a worthy gift to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, worthy of the need and worthy of God's love. Pray for Christians in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen, that the Arabs of the Middle East will know that Christ is the Redeemer.

by Gilbert L. Guffin

Missions in the Mission of the Disciples

Scripture Readings: Matthew 9:17 to 9:33; Mark 1:14 to 3:22; Luke 4:14 to 10:24; John 1:35 to 4:46

"The missionary enterprise," says Robert Hall, "is no human conception or understanding, or invention, no mere philanthropy. . . . It did not originate in the brains of men, not even of William Carey, or the Spanish Paul. Its source was in the heart of God, and Jesus Christ, God's missionary to a lost world, was the supreme revelation of his heart and expression of his love."

And indeed, it is not this what the recurrent Christ-story reaffirms in such golden tones and gladsome accents, and what the gospel is really all about (John 3:16; 1 Cor. 9:15)? "For unto us a child is born, unto

us a son is given" (Isa. 9:6). Commenting on this verse, the great Charles Haddon Spurgeon once observed: "He is thus in his humanity a child born. But as Jesus Christ God's Son, he is not born, but given."

Jesus is thus truly the "one sent"—the first great missionary—God's gift of love to save the world. *For the great issue of all time is man's response to this gift.* In this lesson we shall observe some of the early responses of men to that gift.

We saw in the previous study what happened to Nicodemus, to a woman of Sychar, and to others when they believed on Jesus. We also saw how these brethren

one who attempts to put them into practice. Those then with Matthew, became disciples of Jesus in the truest sense.

In the New Testament, the word "apostle" means one sent forth, a delegate, envoy, or messenger, especially God's messenger. The term is first used in connection with the twelve, a group of highly honored believers chosen by Jesus to assist him in his mission in Palestine.

Read Mark 2:13-17; Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 9:10-17.

List the twelve and describe the personality and background of the eight described in the lesson (see above). It is quite obvious that Christ has need for all types of personalities and can use each in his world-wide mission task. But notice these factors which were common to all: the Lord's call, the response of the individual, ability for the task supplied by God. What was the mission given to the disciples (Mark 3:14-15)? Was this what Jesus was doing (Matt. 4:23-24)? What was their task to preach? Why was it necessary to cast out devils? Study these examples of healing.

1. The demoniac, Mark 1:23-28
2. Peter's mother-in-law, Mark 1:29-34
3. The leper, Mark 1:40-45
4. The paralytic, Mark 2:1-12
5. The lame man at the pool, John 5:1-13

Jesus' concern and compassion included all people (Luke 4:42-43). How did he extend the reach of his

mission to share the newfound wonder of their discovery with their own brothers, and how the woman who had obtained "living water" from Jesus at Jacob's well ran back with that story to her village and told it with such loving appeal that many in the town believed. Those who truly believed on Jesus thereafter became conspicuous with their faith. And this was what the Lord expected. In truth, the supreme mission of the disciples, as we shall see, became not merely their privilege of knowing Jesus, but their joyous, though often lonely, task of "catching men." To this work they were called and to this ministry they were assigned.

There seems to be clear evidence in the Gospels that missions really began, at least in rudimentary form, much earlier than the return of disciples from the Mount of Ascension. Indeed, the disciples at first became missionaries voluntarily and without formal appointment. Later, however, Jesus began to send these out by special commission. The history of missions is the history of this "sending."

All Followers Are Missionaries

All followers of Christ are, by nature of their profes-

sion, missionaries (Matt. 9:35-38)?

Compare Matthew 10:1-53 with Luke 10:1-24. What did the mission of the twelve and of the seventy have in common? Explain Jesus' restricted commission to the twelve which first confined their labors to the Jews. To what area did the seventy minister? What were the seventy commanded to say (Luke 10:9-11)? Was their work successful (Luke 10:17)?

Read again the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37). Notice how Jesus sought to lead the disciples to behold the whole world and the needs of all people.

After his resurrection, Jesus explicitly commanded his followers to go into the whole world (Matt. 28:19-20).

ANSWERING OUR QUESTIONS

At the beginning of this study we asked three questions. Can you answer them now?

1. What is mission?
2. What is the mission of Christ's followers?
3. What is the mission of the church?

Do you consider these good answers?

1. Mission is making God's plan of redemption known to the whole world.
2. The mission of every follower of Christ is to bring others to know and follow him.
3. The mission of the church is to make Jesus Christ known, loved, and lived throughout the world.

sion, missionaries, but to many—and it may be a far greater number than imagined—specific assignments are given. They thus become missionaries under definite appointment.

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke all tell significantly of the first call of Christ to his followers for specific service (Luke 5:1-11; Mark 1:16-20; Matt. 4:18-22). By the shores of Galilee, Jesus found Simon and Andrew, James and John, and called these four fishermen to become "four fishers of men." "Fear not," he said to Peter, "from henceforth thou shalt catch men" (Luke 5:10). All four of these men were henceforth engaged in this work. Two, if not all of them, had already met Jesus and believed on him (John 1:35-42). Now they are called specifically to be "disciples" and are assigned a mission. That mission was to "catch men." Later Jesus called Matthew (Mark 2:13-17; Matt. 9:9-13; Luke 5:27-32), and still, later after a night spent in prayer, he selected twelve apostles, including the four brothers, Andrew and Peter, James and John, as well as Matthew (Mark 3:13-19; Luke

[Continued on next page]

SEARCHING MYSELF

What is my estimate of myself as a witnessing Christian?

What do I believe my neighbors, my family, my friends, my co-workers think of my Christian living?

What do I know Christ expects of me as his follower?

Do I continually ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen me so that I will know concern for all people?

Am I concerned over the work of my church and do I help my church do its work?

MY RESPONSE

List two reasons why missions should be my mission.

Can I think of one person who may not hear God's call to salvation if I fail to tell it to her? Will I make an effort this Christmas to see that she hears?

Will I pray—now—that the Lord will help me reveal his true character and mission during this Christmas season?

- as I participate in the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, December 4-11
- as my family decides on its Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions
- as I shop for Christmas gifts
- as I observe Christmas in my home?

(Use each day of the Week of Prayer, December 4-11, the information and suggestions on the Week of Prayer Book—see Bible-mark which will be distributed to each church family.)

STUDY GUIDE

Missionary Message of the Bible

by Marguerite S. Bobb

Scripture Readings: Matthew 6:17 to 8:33; Mark 1:14 to 3:22; Luke 4:14 to 10:24; John 1:35 to 4:46

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

As you study the response of the early disciples to the invitation to come follow him, and his command to go and publish abroad the kingdom of God, you should notice:

1. What is mission?
2. What is the mission of Christ's followers?
3. What is the mission of the church?

REVIEWING THE SCRIPTURES

What is mission? Would you say that mission is God's plan of redemption known to the whole world?

What is the mission of Christ's followers? Would you say that mission is to bring others to know and follow him?

What is the mission of the church? Would you say that mission is to make Jesus Christ known, loved, and lived throughout the world?

What is the mission of the church? Would you say that mission is to make Jesus Christ known, loved, and lived throughout the world?

The word "disciple" means a learner or pupil; one who is not only the views of the teacher but also

12-16). What a variety of personality and background is seen in these men! Andrew was evidently a quiet, retiring personality, yet with deep commitment, as seen in the fact that in every instance when his name is mentioned he seems to have been trying to bring somebody to Jesus. Peter, on the other hand was outgoing, impulsive, and quick to speak. James and John were called "sons of thunder," implying that each was quick tempered, and explosive. Yet we know that John was also a man of tender and deep emotions, who seemed more able than any other New Testament writer to understand the depths of God's love. Nathaniel was apparently a highly practical man who demanded evidence before he believed, yet he possessed deep understanding. Thomas, often called the doubter, always demanded convincing evidence before he would commit himself. Matthew (Levi) evidently had business acumen and believed in looking after only his own interests. Though a Jew, he had obtained the right to be a tax collector for the hated Romans. Among the twelve is also the shrewd, crafty, and grasping Judas Iscariot, later called a thief. He seems not to have been a believer but was called as the devil's witness, who would finally be compelled to admit he had betrayed "innocent blood."

The Call and Assignment of the Twelve

The special call and assignment given the twelve makes it obvious that any type personality and background, when responsive to the Lord's call, can be instrumental in carrying out the divine missionary purpose. Mark, indeed, says of Jesus that he called "whom he would" (Mark 3:13).

Mark specifies, moreover, the purpose of the call given the disciples: "to preach, and to have authority to cast out devils" (Mark 3:14-15 RSV). This work was evidently to be a part of the disciples' task in "catching men." But what were the disciples to preach, and how were they to "cast out devils"? The answer likely is seen

in what Jesus himself was preaching and doing. He was meeting the needs of men: "And Jesus went about in Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were pained with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy, and he healed them" (Matt. 4:23-24). If the disciples were to do what their Master was doing, they were first to preach the gospel of the kingdom. As seen in a previous study, this was the "good news" of the reign of Christ in the hearts of men and of the presence of his kingdom. This was distinctly a missionary message. The disciples were to proclaim even as their Lord was doing that, if men were to enter the kingdom and to experience the wonder of following with Christ, something must happen within them. Devils must be cast out, and a birth from above must take place. Motives, ideals, and purposes must be transformed.

In the work of the Master, however, there was not only the ministry of preaching and delivering from devils, but also of healing. Jesus looked upon the multitudes with compassion and was sensitive to their physical needs. He healed the demoniac (Mark 1:23-26); Peter's mother-in-law (Mark 1:29-34); the leper (Mark 1:40-45; Matt. 8:2-4; Luke 5:12-16); the paralytic let down through the roof (Mark 2:1-12; Matt. 9:1-8; Luke 5:17-25); the lame man at the pool (John 5:1-13), and many others.

We are told significantly, "The multitudes sought after him, and came unto him, and would have stayed him, that he should not go from them. But he said unto them, I must preach the good tidings of the kingdom of God to the other cities also: for therefore will I send you" (Luke 4:42-43 ASV). Mark quotes Jesus as saying

Beneath the Himalayas by Jasper L. McLeod, 86 cents; Teacher's Guide, 25 cents, from Baptist Book Stores.

Are you studying in circles your Foreign Mission Graded Series book on India, or will your students do so? To make your study more interesting, use these visual aids:

Slide sets: "Life in India" and "Baptist Life in India," \$2.00 per set, eight slides per set, from Baptist Book Stores.

India's story cannot be told without recording the life of William Carey. The motion picture of *Empty Shoes*, can be rented from your nearest Baptist Film Center; color, sound, thirty minutes in length, rental, \$5.00.

"Let us go somewhere into the next towns, that I may preach there also, for to this end came I forth" (Mark 1:38). Great was his concern for any one area, and great was the need found there, but must take the good news somewhere else. Thus, we may judge, in one manner or another, Jesus soon decided to send the twelve on a special mission. Thus he would extend the reach of what he was doing. Seeing the multitudes "scattered abroad, as sheep not having a shepherd," he said to the disciples: "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few" (Matt. 9:37). His compassion is the prelude to his decision to send out the twelve. That same compassion, we must believe, continues to be his reason for sending labourers into the harvest. The compulsion of that compassion, when it enters into the heart of a disciple, will send him anywhere for any service to which the divine voice may call.

Specific Assignments Made to His Followers

Jesus' specific assignments of missionary service to his disciples came, according to the Gospel accounts, in at least three different stages. They were (1) the sending out of the twelve, (2) the sending forth of the seventy, (3) the Great Commission given after the resurrection.

The mission of the twelve and of the seventy apparently had much in common (compare Matt. 10:1-14 with Luke 10:1-24). Jesus gave to the twelve authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and the power to heal diseases and sicknesses of various kinds. Luke especially notes that Jesus sent the twelve forth "to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick" (Luke 9:2). The twelve, like the seventy, were to go by two's, and were not to go either to the Gentiles or the Samaritans, but to the "lost sheep of the House of Israel" (Matt. 10:6). They were to preach, saying "the kingdom of heaven is at hand," and to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, and cast out devils. In other words, their ministry was to be like that of their Master. They were apparently to go from city to city and even from village to village as he was doing, throughout the Galilee region. There was to be a home missions task of evangelism and of ministry to the needs of men.

Jesus' restricted commission to the twelve, confining their labors to the Jews, must not be misunderstood. Later he was to expand this commission to include the whole world, but now a place of beginning was necessary. The Jews, through whom God had worked so long to effect his purpose in behalf of the world, were the logical people to whom the message should first come. If the gospel was to be heard and believed around the world, it must first be tested and demonstrated in the place where it was being originally proclaimed. Although it appears the twelve were assigned to towns and villages of Galilee, apparently the seventy took in a wider latitude, possibly including Judah and Perea.

Witness to All Mankind

The seventy were commanded to say: "The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you" (Luke 10:9-11). So successful was the work of the seventy that they returned to Jesus with joy saying: "Lord, even the devils are subject unto us in thy name" (Luke 10:17). God never calls one to do what he will not enable him to do.

Although there is divided opinion upon the matter, it seems the seventy did not include the apostles in their number. This fact accounts in part for their amazement at their success, and also points to the truth that others besides those especially called to the ministry can be fruitful missionaries. Although Jesus informed the seventy that they were not so much to rejoice that the "spirits" had been subject unto them, but that their names were written in heaven. He is said to have rejoiced in the Holy Spirit himself following the reports of the seventy (Luke 10:21).

Throughout the account concerning the seventy, there are overtones of the universal concern of the Master. Soon these overtones become explicit. In truth, in the same chapter in which the record of the sending out of the seventy is given, Luke gives Jesus' story of the good Samaritan. The point of this story was to show how a Samaritan, in contrast with a priest and a Levite, was fulfilling God's standard of loving his neighbor as himself, even though that neighbor was a Jew and thus a member of a despised race. Jesus repeatedly sought to lift the sights of the disciples to behold the whole world. He had said "God so loved the world," "the field is the world," "I am the light of the world," "I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me," and "other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring." Finally, he is to expand the commission given the disciples to include all nations. The commission is thus universal: "Go . . . and teach all nations," preach the gospel to every creature, and "ye shall be witnesses . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth," he ordered. Those to whom the Great Commission first came included the disciples, the seventy, the "hundred and twenty" of Acts 1, and possibly the above "five hundred" who, Paul says (1 Cor. 15:6), saw the risen Lord. From the beginning, it seems clear then that those who embrace Christ as Lord are expected to become missionaries. The responses of individuals, the assignments given the twelve and the seventy, and the Great Commission following the resurrection all point to the inescapable conclusion that the mission of the followers of Christ is missions, missions which embraces the whole world and reaches to the deepest needs of both the spiritual and physical man. No wonder John R. Mott wrote years ago: "The primary work of the church is to make Jesus Christ known, and obeyed, and loved throughout the world." This is in truth our primary and prominent work.

MISSION
Study

ADULT BOOK
Foreign Mission Graded Series

DECEMBER, 1968

Forecaster

Planned by Margaret Bruce

Creative Leadership

by Elaine Dickson

Why are some leaders more creative than others?

Why are some groups more effective than others?

Why do some organizations have a flair for doing things in unexpected, original ways?

Why are many people, working alone or with others, producing less than their obvious potential?

Women's Missionary Union needs creative leaders! The work of WMU in a church is important enough to merit the best that leaders have to give. The creative leader has ideas and solutions to problems which transcend the established order of things. This kind of person is always groping beyond the boundaries of past experience to make new discoveries. Creativity is getting out of a mental rut and looking at things in a new and different way.

The capacity to be creative is inherent in human beings, but the utilization of that capacity is hard work. The path of least resistance is to use one's abilities and skills in support of the commonplace, the obvious, the routine, or the established order of things. Creativity does not just happen.

Some leaders insist that they have no

ideas, when what they mean is they do not have big or revolutionary ideas. Good ideas bombard persons every day—from people, travel, reading, TV. Anyone can have good ideas by being hospitable to them and by cultivating a willingness to try them out.

Some people sprout ideas like mushrooms, but their vision drifts because they are impatient with small beginnings or because they will not spend the effort to translate their ideas into practice. Even Mozart, who could conceive whole movements of a symphony in one lightning flash, had to transcribe that flash one note at a time. Creativity requires disciplined hard work and initiative.

Five major qualities seem to characterize persons who get things done—persons who translate their good ideas into action. These persons (1) have an inner drive that less effective persons lack, (2) they know how to sort out the trivial from the vital, (3) they know how to tap and use the ideas of others, (4) they are tough-minded, and (5) they take obstacles in stride.

Those who have studied creativity say that this quality is more an *attitude* than an *aptitude*. Creativity is a turn of mind, a way of life. Creativity is the kind of thinking that is constantly attuned to new possibilities.

The creative leader usually has a high degree of sensitivity. This is the kind of person

ous churches. She was looking for satisfaction for her spiritual needs, but the services had seemed cold and formal. No one she met helped her experience a personal encounter with Christ.

Bob and Claire fell in love, and Bob brought Claire to his pastor for counseling before marriage. Under Bob's testimony and the guidance of the pastor, Claire surrendered to the claims of Christ for her life and was baptized into our church. They took the advice of their pastor and began to read the Bible and pray together daily. They made friends among the young church couples.

The joy of their own salvation, and a realization of what their lives had been without Christ, created concern in their hearts for Claire's parents and brother who were lost. Sensing the leadership of the Holy Spirit, they began to pray and write letters to Claire's family. As often as they could do so, they visited Claire's home for the purpose of witnessing to her family. Many times these trips were unpleasant because Claire's father was strongly opposed to Christianity. Before each trip they asked Christian friends to pray for them as they visited.

After many letters and a few visits, Claire received a letter from her brother. He told her he was dating a Christian girl. He said that the change he had seen in Claire and the conduct of his Christian girl friend convinced him that they possessed what he wanted. Then patience and faithful witnessing to Claire's mother bore fruit. Two years ago she made a profession of her faith at our church while on a visit here.

Bob is employed in a large company. Many of the men in the plant use a varying work schedule to excuse themselves from church attendance and participation in the work of the Lord. But Bob realizes that his work affords many opportunities for witnessing. As the men watch the machines, they sometimes have time to talk. Bob has found that being a sympathetic listener leads to witnessing opportunities. A backsliding Christian was recently restored to usefulness because Bob talked to him and had prayer with him on the job.

Before their baby came, Claire worked part time in a beauty shop. She enjoyed her work. It gave her close contact with many women in a situation which lent itself to giving Christian encouragement. One of her customers was a young mother, a leukemia victim with only months to live. Claire witnessed to her and enlisted the aid of her pastor in dealing with this family. It took

courage to speak to this couple because the husband did not want his wife to become a Christian and put obstacles in Claire's way as she tried to witness.

After their baby was born, Claire and Bob moved to a new neighborhood. Being restricted to home for awhile, Claire sought ways to make her life count in these new surroundings. She noticed that her neighbors seemed to gather at the mailboxes when the mail came. She decided to join this group and get acquainted. Claire and Bob are particularly interested in gaining young back one family who have strayed from their responsibilities as Christians. They feel that this informal contact is the best avenue to helping them. Claire finds that casual conversation over coffee often leads to meaningful witnessing.

A young sailor and his wife came to our pastor seeking help to save their marriage. Under the guidance and counseling of our pastor, they accepted Christ and started on the road to Christian maturity. They were weak in faith, however, that the pastor felt they would need strong Christian friends to help them for awhile. He and his wife prayed about it and felt led to ask Bob and Claire to make friends with this couple. Bob and Claire do not have many free nights for recreation, but they were willing to include this insecure and not-very-friendly couple in their plans. They invited the couple over to supper in their home. Claire and Bob dropped by frequently to chat. They did small favors for the couple. This couple is not always easy to befriend for they are often upset and confused by personal problems. In spite of this Claire and Bob continue to be faithful friends.

Recently the pastor's wife met Claire in the shopping center. She had a five-year-old child with her. He is the son of one of Bob's relatives. The child's mother had asked Bob and Claire to keep the boy for her for six weeks while she worked. Claire felt that she could not do it because of other responsibilities, but after praying about it, they decided to keep the child. The boy badly needs love and attention and the mother needs them. They took the child hoping to make an impression on his life and to win the mother.

This fine young couple could find as many reasons for not witnessing as anyone else, but they did witness to. They have experienced the happiness which comes from obeying the command of Christ, "As you go, so teach" (free translation, Matt. 28:19).

who not only looks, but also sees; who not only listens, but also hears; who not only touches, but also feels. Sensitivity is the ability to look below the surface, to see possibilities that others overlook, and to see the causes of problems as well as the symptoms.

If large numbers of women in a church are unenlisted in WMS, what are the reasons? The sensitive leader probes and listens and analyzes. She assesses the situation to discover ways to reach the unreached. She unlocks possibilities others may have overlooked.

The creative leader is also flexible. Flexibility is the ability to adjust quickly to new developments and changed situations. Accidents occur, well-laid plans fall through, but the creative person is able to take advantage of the less-than-ideal situation and make the most of it.

If a prayer retreat is to be held in a park on Saturday morning, what happens if it rains midway through the meeting? What happens if a person on program fails to show up? How a leader reacts to the less-than-ideal-circumstance tests creativity. The creative leader adjusts quickly to new developments and changed situations.

Originality is the attribute very often associated with creativity. Originality is the uncommonness of a person's responses. Some people are more original than others, but even the quality of originality can be cultivated and developed.

Another mark of the creative leader is the ability to redefine. This is the ability to rearrange ideas, concepts, and things, and to lead people into new patterns of usefulness. Creativity is not based altogether on new ideas and new inventions; it also involves the imaginative use of old things for new purposes.

Is there a TV commercial that can be adapted and used as a promotional feature at a WMS meeting? Is there a travel poster that could be used to announce a meeting? Is there a catchy tune to which new words can be written? These are illustrations of the imaginative use of old things for new purposes.

To the PRESIDENT

Intercessory Prayer and Giving

One of the correlated program actions relevant to the Life and Work Curriculum is to "study and reaffirm our commitment to God." One of the proposed WMU actions related to this church action is to help church members study and reaffirm their commitment to God through intercessory prayer for missions and through giving to missions. Now that we are approaching the

Still another skill of the creative person is the ability to analyze. This is the ability to break down a problem or an assignment into its component parts and to comprehend the relationships among them. Analysis prevents leaders from making shallow generalizations, and allows them to penetrate into the nature of a problem. The creative leader breaks down her problems into bite-size chunks so they can be dealt with.

Analysis is an indispensable part of planning. If a leader is responsible for leading the WMS in its observance of the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, her "problem" is how to do her assignment. If she views the task as a whole, it may be overwhelming. But if she breaks it down into several parts, each part can be dealt with comfortably. For example, planning an observance of the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions may be broken down into several parts—scheduling dates, planning the prayer time, ordering materials, planning publicity. Each part is relatively easy to deal with when the whole responsibility may appear unwieldy.

The other side of the ability to analyze is the ability to synthesize. This is the ability to put parts together to form a whole. The creative leader can combine elements in a variety of ways to make a new whole. Some presidents are much more creative than others, for example, in the way they put together a meeting agenda. There are many ways to arrange the parts of a meeting to make the whole meeting a new experience.

There is much to be creative about in Woman's Missionary Union. There are books to be studied, study material to be discussed, meetings to be conducted, prospects to be enlisted, planning to be done, service to render—to mention only a few. The creative leader sees every job to be done as a challenge to creative effort. The creative leader is not satisfied with "business as usual," but keeps looking for ways to get out of a mental rut and look at things in a new and different way.

Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, December 4-11 and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, we must set ourselves to this task.

Some of the suggestions given in the *Church Program Guidebook*, \$1.25 from Baptist Book Stores, will help with this action. These are: educate church members to need for special missions offerings by projecting church goals and plans for the offering, by interpreting to church members the history, purpose, benefits and church plans for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, and by involving members in study of the *Foreign Mission Graded Series*. Some of these you have already done, others you will do in order to enlist church mem-

bers to pray and to give for foreign missions.

The record mentioned in the paragraphs to the prayer chairman will be sent to the WMU president. The record is to be used by Woman's Missionary Societies and Young Women's Auxiliaries. This means that it will be necessary for the president to schedule the use of the record. In some churches where there are more than one WMS and more than one YWA, it may be wise to have the record checked in and out at the church library.

Surely you will pray earnestly and work diligently with your pastor and all other church leaders that this week will be a significant one for each church member and for Christ's cause around the world.

For a Society Without Circles

Have you had an opportunity to observe the work of a WMS using the optional plan of organization for a society without circles? This simplified plan was designed for the society with few members, but it is being used by others, too. The plan suggests fewer officers and no standing committees. The officers are: president, secretary-treasurer, youth director(s), study chairman, and activities chairman. The duties and functions of each of these officers are outlined in the pamphlet "WMU Organizational Plan for a Society Without Circles." The pamphlet may be secured free from your state WMU office. If you are not acquainted with this alternate plan of organization, you may want to investigate it.

Recording Attendance

The basic objective III, Aim VI of Aims for Advancement relates to attendance at the general meeting of the society. The objective reads, "An average attendance for the year of one-third of the members at the ten general missionary program meetings of the society." In order to report on this objective, an accurate record of the attendance at each of the ten meetings (attendance at observances of weeks of prayer in December and March not included) must be kept by the secretary. If these combined figures divided by ten equal one-third of the number of members at the beginning of the year, this basic objective is attained.

If the membership of your society is large, work out a plan whereby the attendance may easily be checked. Some societies ask circle leaders to be responsible for checking the attendance of their members. In some societies the member signs her name on a record sheet.

In a society without circles the Individual Monthly Record Sheet for WMS member is used (25 for 25 cents, 100 for 75 cents, packaged only as listed). Order from Woman's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203, or Baptist Book Stores. In societies with circles these record sheets are used at circle meetings.

Presiding and Parliamentary Procedure

The one who presides at a meeting is the person who gives guidance to the meeting. This is an important responsibility and should receive the strictest attention from the presiding officer.

Here are some of the things to remember in preparing to preside:

1. Dress appropriately.
2. Have a positive attitude.
3. Create a harmonious atmosphere.
4. Speak distinctly.
5. Forget yourself, yet be yourself.
6. Refrain from expressing personal opinions.
7. Be informed, impartial, and fair.

The presiding officer needs to know the by-laws of her organization and also the basics of parliamentary procedure. There is a section on parliamentary procedure in the WMU Year Book. You will want to study these and become thoroughly familiar with these most essential procedures in conducting meetings. Complete instructions concerning these may be found in *Robert's Rules of Order, Revised*.

Study of Missionary Message of the Bible

Dr. Hugo Culpepper says, "The more profound one's knowledge of biblical revelation becomes, the clearer is his sense of missionary responsibility." Perhaps this is the reason that from the beginning of Woman's Missionary Union the study of the missionary message of the Bible has been basic in the study of missions. Each month there are Bible study lessons in ROYAL SERVICE along with helps for discussion leaders or for those studying individually.

Plans should be made for the study of these lessons. They may be used at circle meetings or at other regularly scheduled times. Some pastors have led in a study of the lessons during the Wednesday evening prayer meeting hour. If plans have not been made in your WMS for a formal study of the missionary message of the Bible, encourage WMS members to study the lessons in their homes, alone or with members of their families.

To the CIRCLE CHAIRMAN

Circle Program for December

Appropriately, the December circle program or the program for the second WMS meeting carries us to the Middle East. The study is a most interesting one since we will look at medical missions in Gaza, Yemen, and

Jordan, Yemen is a new missions area for Southern Baptists, so it will be of special interest to WMS members. Doubtless there will be persons who do not know its location, and there may be some who have never heard of this country.

Encourage circle members to read the article in this ROYAL SERVICE by Dr. James M. Young entitled "God's Miracles for Yemen." It is a story of a thrilling venture in faith and tells how Southern Baptist witness began in Yemen.

Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions

One of your first concerns for December will be to encourage circle members to participate in the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, December 4-11. They can do this by attending each day's prayer services; by using the daily Bible-marker folder provided for each member of the church family; by encouraging members of their family to attend the Wednesday evening prayer service and other services during the week; by reading December ROYAL SERVICE, *The Commission*, and the state Baptist paper; by giving a worthy Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The 1966 goal, \$14,500,000, is a high goal and attaining it will require prayer and self-denial.

Presiding Procedures

This month's section "To the President" includes some suggestions concerning presiding. It is hoped that these will be equally beneficial to you as circle chairman. You do know, of course, that you serve the circle in the same sort of way that the president serves the Woman's Missionary Society.

You seek to interpret to circle members the purpose and plans of the Woman's Missionary Society. You preside at circle meetings and keep members informed and enlisted in all society plans. You encourage circle members to attend the general missionary program meetings of the society. You lead the circle to realize that the

society is made up of circles; and to do effective work all circles must work together for the cause of missions.

Promotional Features

Since there is no general meeting of the society this month, the circle is entirely responsible for December promotional features. In addition to having a preview of the January society program, be sure that emphasis is given to ROYAL SERVICE gift subscriptions. The importance of getting *The Commission* read and received monthly by every family in the church should also be magnified. In this Forecaster you will find suggestions for these promotional features. If they do not fit your situation, use your own creative ideas and then share them with us.

Thanksgiving at Christmas

"Wonderful Peace of My Saviour," was sung by two Southern Baptist missionary wives in Vietnam while sky raiders roared overhead. Later they said, "We've learned to be thankful for the usually common things of life: a meal without gunfire, a peaceful night's sleep, for whole, uninjured bodies, for electricity and ice and refrigeration, for the opportunity to go to town when we want to."

"For cool wind, usually unheard of in Da Nang at this time of year, for the United States, a country big enough to keep fighting for this country even while it's stumbling around trying to find its way for prayer, for a joke, something to laugh at, for a washing machine and an iron to use."

"But more than all these, we are thankful for our faith in a living, revealed God."

Let us also thank God for the message of the angel so long ago: "Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Son, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).

to these questions: Was adequate time used for study of the book? Was a variety of teaching methods used? The elective in Aim 1, "Use of relay, extensive, or intensive method of teaching two or more books listed in *World in Books*" is for the purpose of encouraging the use of a variety of teaching methods.

Read an explanation of each of these methods in the WMS Manual. Could your study of *Beneath the Himalayas* have been improved if you had employed one of these methods?

How many WMS members read the book? Is there a plan in your church to promote missionary reading by all church members? Here are some ideas which may be

used to encourage the reading of missions books:

1. Work with the church librarian on a display of missions books.
2. In some prominent place in the church exhibit a "Have You Read?" poster. Underneath the words, "Have You Read?" cut two vertical lines in which the title of a missions book printed on a cardboard strip may be inserted. This month these books would be appropriate to recommend: *Intercessory Prayer* by J. G. K. McClure, 39 cents; *Christian Sharing of Possessions* by Annie Wright Usery, 85 cents; *World Awareness* by Sadie T. Crawley, 85 cents; *Lottie Moon* by Una Roberts Lawrence, \$1.00; *Bill Wallace of China* by Jesse C. Fletcher, \$2.95; *Go Home and Tell* by Bertha Smith, \$1.25.

Leading Persons to Participate in Missions

Prayer Chairman—December 4-11 is the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. The theme for the week is "Behold the Lamb of God," the hymn is "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne," and the Scripture is John 1:29.

The daily topics are as follows:

- Monday—Behold Him As Healer
- Tuesday—Behold Him As Teacher
- Wednesday—Behold Him As Preacher
- Thursday—Behold Him As Saviour
- Friday—Behold His Salvation

Each day's outline will include: (1) the hymn for the week; (2) a quiet time for personal prayer, with a recording provided; (3) use of Call to Prayer; (4) interpretation of daily theme; (5) suggested hymn for the day; (6) presentation of different types of work being carried on in different missions areas; (7) appeal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering; (8) season of directed prayer; (9) offering; (10) prayer of thanksgiving; and (11) the recorded solo "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" followed by a message from Dr. Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board. Royal Service materials will include directions for this period for those who do not use the record.

To prepare your own heart for the week read all the supporting articles in ROYAL SERVICE. You must not miss Dr. James M. Young's article that tells of the opening of Southern Baptist missions work in Yemen. It will greatly strengthen your faith. Read your state Baptist paper and *The Commission* for articles which will help with your personal preparation and your churchwide planning.

All materials should be carefully reviewed and evaluated in order to make the best possible use of them. These include the record mentioned above with music

and directives for the period of prayer, solo, and a message from Dr. Cauthen; the book- or Bible-marker folder for use by families; the large poster which may be used as a center of interest; and small posters for promotion of the Week of Prayer and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering placed where Sunday School, Training Union, Brotherhood, and other groups meet.

Program covers with the poster design may be secured from Woman's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203, or from Baptist Book Stores, 25 for 55 cents, 100 for \$2.00.

"Biographical Sketch of Lottie Moon," early missionary to China for whom the Christmas offering for foreign missions was named, is available (10 cents each; 50 for \$2.75, 100 for \$5.00) from Woman's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203, or Baptist Book Stores.

Stewardship Chairman—One of the most important responsibilities which the stewardship chairman has is leading persons to participate in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. As you know, this is to be a church offering and should involve every church member.

December ROYAL SERVICE has a message from each of the Foreign Mission Board area secretaries which tells what the offering has done and what the 1966 offering proposes to do for the different missions areas. These appeals, along with the message by Dr. Baker James Cauthen, may be used in Sunday School and Training Union assemblies, and at WMU and Brotherhood meetings.

State Baptist papers and *The Commission* will carry information regarding the offering. The Foreign Mission Board has also produced a leaflet to aid in promotion of the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering which is free upon request from the Department of Missionary Education, Foreign Mission Board, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230.

Each day during the observance of the week of prayer an opportunity will be given to receive the offering. If the large poster is used for a center of interest, place an offering plate underneath it and have soft music played as offering envelopes are brought to the front. You may choose to reproduce the poster by using Christmas greens and candles and enlarging the bars of music, "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne."

In the church vestibule or in some conspicuous place arrange a visual to show progress being made on the attainment of your church goal. Here is an idea you may use.

In the center of a large background place a cutout of the world on which the words "Behold the Lamb of God" are superimposed. Around the world place cutouts of different items supported by the Lottie Moon

To the CHAIRMEN

Teaching Missions

Mission Study Chairman—This month you will no doubt complete your study of the book *Beneath the Himalayas*. Evaluate the study by considering answers

Christmas Offering. These may be represented by schools, churches, hospitals, and clinics, a Christmas wreath with a card for missionaries salaries and expenses, publications and Bibles. As your offering grows, the goal and the amount given may be placed underneath the visual.

Community Missions Chairman—Doubtless you have been reading that the Life and Work Curriculum is action-inducing. This is one of the reasons people have responded so enthusiastically to this new correlated curriculum.

The week of prayer materials this year also have this characteristic, and you will want to study each day's suggested mission actions. Consider them as you make plans for your WMS.

For example, the material on Monday presents Jesus as Healer, and the illustrations show medical missions in Africa. The suggested actions on this day suggest the following possibilities: visit a nursing home, provide transportation for a needy person to the doctor or clinic, minister to a nonresident patient in the hospital, prepare and distribute a prayer folder or card for patients, roll bandages for a hospital, and minister to a student nurse in some thoughtful way.

These suggestions will lead you to consider your own community and to decide which of these activities are appropriate for members of your WMS. If there are other needs or concerns which are more urgent in your situation, you will of course plan to meet them.

In our Bible study lesson this month Dr. Guffin quotes Dr. John R. Mott: "The primary work of the church is to make Jesus Christ known, and obeyed, and loved throughout the world." As you guide WMS members in their witness and ministry, keep these words paramount in your thinking.

Enlistment Chairman—What plans are being made for extension members to participate in the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering? Just because a WMS member cannot attend the meetings in which the week of prayer is observed does not mean that she should be excluded from participation. Consider each individual and plan to meet her need. See if these ideas can be used to provide an opportunity for extension members to have a part in this significant week.

1. Encourage extension members to read the material provided for each day in *ROYAL SERVICE*.
2. If extension members are unable to read the material, arrange for someone to read to them.
3. Encourage members to set aside prayer periods to coincide with those scheduled at the church or other places.
4. Provide offering envelopes for extension members.
5. Where advisable arrange to have the record with

the hymn "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" and the message from Dr. Cauten played for extension members.

6. Keep extension members informed of plans and progress made on the attainment of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal.

Organizing for Missions Projects

This task of providing organization and leadership for special missions projects of the church is one which clearly describes important functions of Woman's Missionary Union. For it includes the promotion of the weeks and seasons of prayer and special missions offerings for which our organization has felt a responsibility since 1888.

Organizing for the observance of the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, December 4-11, and the bringing in of \$14,500,000 for foreign missions through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will require careful planning.

Those involved in this planning include the WMI council and the church council. The WMI president, the pastor, and the prayer chairmen take the lead. Definite arrangements should be made for presenting plans in Sunday School and Training Union assemblies and for the Wednesday evening prayer service. Schedules must be set up for morning, afternoon, and evening prayer groups where needed to reach all of the people.

The church should be allowed an opportunity to evaluate its giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering through the years and to determine what its 1966 offering goal should be.

The material provided in December *ROYAL SERVICE* should be studied carefully and plans made for its use. Ways should be developed to involve the entire family in praying for foreign missions and giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering during this week. In the past readers of *ROYAL SERVICE* were urged to find a rocking chair and read to the assembled family the missionary stories and poems. A book or Bible market folder has been produced by Woman's Missionary Union in sufficient quantity to be distributed through the Sunday School so that families may read and pray together as directed, each member of the family entering into the spiritual adventure of a week of prayer for foreign missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Will prayer and gifts be part of your gift to Christ as you commemorate his birth this month? This story helps us to understand the spirit of giving.

"An American missionary in Africa was pleased to observe the great fascination of the natives in his account of the birth of Jesus. He told them that in his country

people celebrated the joyful occasion by giving gifts to each other on Christ's birthday.

"On Christmas morning one of his faithful hearers presented him with a giant shell of rare luster and beauty and quite unlike any shell to be found in that part of Africa. When the native was asked where he

BULLETIN BOARD

From Baptist Book Stores materials may be secured which will help create a world missions atmosphere for the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. If your church has a family night supper on Wednesday evenings, perhaps you can decorate the tables and announce the week of prayer date and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal. Some items which could be used for this purpose:

World Flags Centerpiece—Forty-two flags of nations achieving independence before 1946. Printed in full color, size 13½ by 19 inches. To be cut apart and slipped through decouit slits in a colorful sky-and-globe decorated base, 10 by 28 inches. Base and 2- by 3-inch flags are printed on both sides. \$1.50.

Colorprint World Map—This map is 50 by 38 inches, folded to 9 by 12 inches. Printed in seven colors. 39 cents.

World Missions Bulletin—Beautiful, four-color bulletin showing the world, people from many lands, and the Great Commission. Three blank pages for your own missions program, announcements. 100, \$2.00; 500, \$6.00; 1,000, \$14.00.

World Globe—Collapsible, plastic globe printed in bright colors, eleven inches in diameter. Use for decorations, centerpiece or study. \$1.00.

A filmstrip or a motion picture may also be used as preparation for a churchwide observance of the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. Perhaps you could suggest scheduling one of these for Sunday School or Training Union assembly. Your pastor may want to use one of them during the Wednesday evening prayer meeting.

Prayer Power for Missions is a filmstrip designed to show the integral relationship between prayer and missions. It interprets how Woman's Missionary Union helps the church realize its prayer potential. 45 frames, with recording and manual, \$6.50, from Baptist Book Stores.

The Lottie Moon Story, a motion picture, thirty-two minutes, sound, is the story of Lottie Moon and her

got it, he said he had walked many miles to a certain bay, the only spot where such shells could be found.

"The shell is a beautiful Christmas gift!" the missionary said to his friend. "I think it was wonderful of you to travel so far to get it for me."

"His eyes brightened, the native answered, 'Long walk, part of gift!'"—James O. Duncan, *Capital Baptist*.

experiences as a missionary in North China. You'll share with her the crucial years of her career, and you'll feel the urgency of her appeal for missions. Rental \$5.00 from Baptist Film Centers.

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

Percentage of Operating Costs For Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1965

	Amount	Percentage of Total Operating Costs
Home Expenses		
Administrative and General Expenses		
Expenses of home office in Richmond including salaries, traveling expenses, stationery, postage, etc.	\$ 1,266,630.96	5.07%
Promotional Expenses (Home Cultivation)		
Publicity through denominational papers, <i>The Commission</i> , audio-visual education, audio-visual equipment, literature, Jenkins Library, deputation work of missionaries, recruitment materials, etc.	\$ 575,157.23	2.30%
Total Home Expenses	\$ 1,841,788.19	7.37%

Foreign Fields

Salaries and expenses of missionaries, furlough travel, missionary pension plan, special allowance to emeritus missionaries, advance training of selected Baptist leaders from abroad in USA, evangelism and church development, maintenance of schools and hospitals, operation of publishing houses, purchase of property abroad and miscellaneous expenses	\$23,124,756.75	92.63%
	\$24,966,544.94	100.00%

Missionary News Brief:

The leadership of the Baptist Convention of Spain is now planning for the first nationwide simultaneous stewardship campaign to be held during October, November, and December, 1966. Pray for the campaign.

PROMOTIONAL FEATURES AT YOUR MEETINGS

by Doris DeVault

CIRCLE •

Direct Line . . . Worldwide "Connections"

Setting: On a small table place a telephone, note paper, pencil, and additok or two. Telephone rings (use concealed alarm clock) and WMS member, Mrs. Early, quickly enters room to answer it. (The dots . . . indicate pauses in conversation.)

Mrs. Early: Hello . . . yes? (with questioning voice)
. . . Yes, this is the Early residence . . . You have the wrong number (starts to hang up) . . . but I . . . (interrupted, Mrs. Early pulls a chair to the table and is seated) . . . No, I have never heard of worldwide "Connections" . . . Answer a riddle? . . . What is it that makes worldwide "connections" to Argentina, Japan . . . Did you say "connections everywhere" . . . and for less than thirteen cents a month? . . . What kind of a commercial is this, anyway? . . . No, I can't guess . . . Yes, I have heard of *The Commission*.

(WMS member from audience steps up . . . Mrs. Early puts receiver on hook.)

WMS member (holding up a copy of THE COMMISSION): Indeed *The Commission* seeks to open a direct line between Southern Baptists and the world mission fields by supplementing the program of each church. Here's what's inside to make it possible. (Quickly mention main contents in *THE COMMISSION*.)

Did you know there are four ways to get *The Commission* into our church program?

1. **Individual Subscriptions Plan:** Single subscriptions for \$1.50 a year, or three years for \$3.50.
2. **Church Budget Plans:** Put in the church budget and send to every family in the membership for 88 cents per family per year.
3. **Church Club Plans:** Ten or more persons may subscribe for \$1.10 per person per year.
4. **Elected Workers Plan:** Subscription provided by the church for each elected worker \$1.00 a year per subscription.

GIFT SUGGESTION:

ROYAL SERVICE, \$2.00
for twelve copies, one each month

Briefly discuss the best plan for your church if there is no plan at present.

If You Get—Then Give

Preparation: (Wrap a box with Christmas gift paper and colorful ribbon.) Hold up the box while making the following presentation.

The American Bible Society has a Bible Club slogan which says, "You Don't Get—You Give a Bible a Month."

Our slogan is "If You Get—Then Give *ROYAL SERVICE*."

Give members subscription blanks to fill in names and addresses of those for whom they are subscribing. Indicate the giver's name and be sure to designate the subscriptions as Christmas gift subscriptions. A gift card will be sent to each new subscriber. Mail subscriptions to *ROYAL SERVICE*, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203.

Your Personal Invitation

(At your meeting have someone dressed as a postman enter and hand a letter to the circle chairman. The circle chairman will read the following to the group.)

Dear WMS Member:

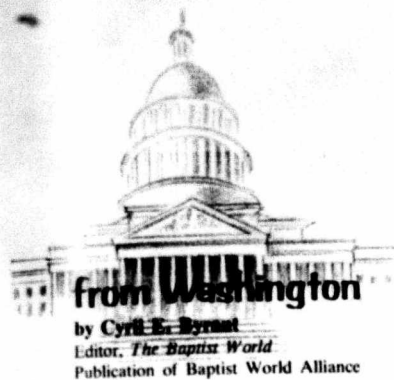
In this day of knowledge and "know-how" we must be increasingly aware of the means and methods for sharing the story of Christ with the world.

On January (date), (place), (hour), our society will consider the Philippines from the standpoint of evangelism and church development. El Paso, Texas, and Hong Kong will be spotlighted for their publication work.

Consider this as your personal invitation to be present.

Sincerely,

Program Chairman



from Washington
by Cyril E. Bryant
Editor, *The Baptist World*
Publication of Baptist World Alliance



The Three Faces of War in Vietnam

NEWSPAPER headlines speak of strafings, bomb-
ings, hand grenades, mines, refugees, death, and
destruction. This is the sordid, unhappy side of the war
in Vietnam. This is the war that brings misery, heart-
break, waste of human life and values, and waste of
material goods. This is the war we would like to end
and put behind us.

There is, fortunately, another war going on in Viet-
nam. It also opposes communism and all other enemies
of human values. It is a war that, without headlines,
seeks to give the people of South Vietnam a sense of
dignity, a gleam of hope, means of self-support, and
self-improvement.

This is the war that eventually will bring peace to
troubled Southeast Asia.

The better war is being waged largely through the
United States Agency for International Development. It
has piled expenditures of two billion dollars over the
past twelve years, and the knowledge and sweat of thou-
sands of American men into an unceasing battle to pro-
vide homes, health, food, education, and industry. One
observer calls it "a war of sows, seed, and cement."

President Johnson spoke recently of this development
program as "the third face" of the war, recognizing
armed conflict and the quest for political solutions as
faces one and two.

"This third face of the war . . . is, at once, the most
tragic and the most hopeful," he said. "It is the face of
human need. It is the untended sick, the hungry family,
and the neglected child. It is men and women, many
without shelter, with rags for clothing, struggling for
survival on a very rich and a very fertile land."

Mr. Johnson said further, in apparent recognition of
this human and religious truth, that this "is the most
important title of all in which we are engaged . . . a

nation cannot be built by armed power or by political
agreement." Success, he said, rests "on the expectation
by individual men and women that their future will be
better than their past."

The AID program began in 1954, as soon as Viet-
nam became an independent country. Its flow of dollars
has been accompanied by American men who teach
better methods of agriculture, who build schools and
establish teaching methods, who treat the sick and train
Vietnamese medical personnel, who supervise the con-
struction of homes and the building of factories.

"Our economic assistance has not been merely anti-
communist, but rather primarily pro-people," said one
observer.

That this war, the good war, is making progress is
attested by latest figures showing that 460,000 refugees
have been resettled. That the battle is far from won is
shown by the other total 480,000 refugees, 60 percent
of them women and children, still wandering in the
Saigon area.

This report of human kindness during a time and in
an area where the news is so habitually dominated by
bloodshed brings a bit of comfort, a ray of hope, at the
Christmas season.

Let us note, too, that despite the military warfare
that daily threatens their homes and their lives, twenty-
three Southern Baptist missionaries are continuing their
Christian witness in Vietnam. The Mission, opened
there in 1959, has developed, despite war's turmoil, a
program of personal evangelism, church development,
publications, and radio outreach. The most effective
witness of all, however, is the lives of these missionaries
whose very presence speaks loud and clear their obedi-
ence to Christ's great commandments that we love God
and love our neighbors.

FROM: Dr. Medical Missionary
Your Medical Missions Hospital
Somewhere, The World

Dear Friend,

I was very happy indeed to receive your letter and in knowledge of your interest in our work. It is always a source of strength to realize that you back home continue to think and pray for us as we try to represent you here in Jesus' name.

Life on the missions field is a very varied and busy one. And though it has its problems and heartbreaks, it also has its great joy and happiness. But let me get to your questions which I will try to answer.

Your first question was, Why are you a medical missionary? This would take reams of paper to answer, but basically I am a medical missionary because in my heart I have felt the call of God. He led me through years of preparation and then on to this place of service. Since the days of our Lord, the ministry of compassion has always been a very important part of the total gospel.

In the Bible we read: "And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people" (Matt. 4:23 RSV). I feel that if we are truly to represent him and be his witnesses, he would have us to be concerned for those who suffer, and I am happy indeed that Southern Baptists are concerned in a ministry of compassion.

Medical work overseas among Southern Baptists began in the middle of the last century. Dr. J. Sexton James, a physician, was appointed in 1846 as our first medical missionary. He was tragically lost at sea on his way to Shanghai, China. In 1851 Dr. G. W. Burton was appointed for medical work in Shanghai. Since that very early beginning, our work has now grown today to include twenty hospitals, over fifty day clinics, one health service.

Sixty-six physicians, fifty-eight nurses, three dentists, and twenty other medical missions personnel testify to Southern Baptist concern and involvement in humanity's suffering. The witness we can bear and the opportunities we can have are unlimited. Last year 462,278 different patients were cared for in our outpatient de-

by Franklin T. Fowler, M.D.
Medical Consultant
Foreign Mission Board, SBC

TO: Mrs. WMS Member
United States of America

partments and 42,690 inpatients in our hospitals. I think what this means: Southern Baptists have touched in the name of our Lord over one half million souls a times of need.

Your second question would take many pages to answer, so let me try to summarize for you.

As a medical doctor, what are you doing? First, day by day I am trying to live before others a Christian witness. Not only a Christian witness as I work in the hospital visiting patients and outpatients, carrying my administrative duties with hospital personnel, but also as I spend time with my wife and children in our home, as I play tennis with friends, as I work in my church, as I travel on missions business, as I have fellowship with national brethren and fellow missionaries. All this is part of my witness.

In other words, much of what I do is just what I would do if I lived in Centerville, USA.

Someone else asked me: "In all of your work at the hospital, when do you find time to be a missionary?" Well, of course, I hope that all I do is part of my being a missionary, that of being a witness to God's love and grace on and off "duty." As we pray before surgery, as I visit patients on the wards, as I lead ward or chapel devotions, as I see an emergency patient at 2:00 A.M. with a smile on my face (not too easy sometimes), this is all part of the witness I must try to bear, with God's Spirit guiding.

Let me tell you of a little boy with a severe case of tetanus who was brought by his father late one night. Matthew had cut his foot a few days before. It was a bad cut, so he paid little attention to it. A few days later, however, he started having cramps and found it difficult to open his mouth. As he did not improve, his father brought him from a very great distance to us. It was late when they arrived.

When I first saw Matthew, I thought the boy was being smart, for on his face was a silly grin. I realized, however, that this grin was the terrible rictus, the grin of tetanus. The spasm of the facial muscles threw his face into what has been depicted as a sardonic grin. The nurses on duty and I worked into the morning hours. Eventually we were relieved, knowing that Matthew would recover.

A few days later Matthew left the hospital, with other smile on his face, this time a smile of thanks.



Some types of medical witness are--

a clinic in a Baptist church, Nigeria
chapel services for patients, Indonesia
teaching nurses, Gaza
providing facilities, Aqaba, Jordan



While recovering, not only he but his father heard of the love of God who sent his Son to save us, not just in this life, but for life everlasting. Will you pray with me that both Matthew and his father receive eternal health through Jesus Christ our Lord as they have received temporal health.

One of the real joys I have had outside hospital work has been in helping with the development of a local Baptist church. This small work started in the home of a former patient. Gradually as other ex-patients, their relatives and friends came, the little mission grew and before too long a Baptist church was organized. Not all of us medical missionaries are ordained, but some of us are, and so I had the privilege of being pastor of this church for awhile.

And now for your last question, What can I do to help you in your work?

First and above all, I would ask you to pray for us. Prayer is a power that we cannot get along without. I would not dare to be here without the continuing prayer concern of fellow Southern Baptists. From time to time, there are other needs which you might help to meet.

Bag bandages are always needed in our outpatient and clinic work. Certain simple drugs are helpful, especially vitamin-minerals, diet supplements, and antibiotics. Be sure, however, that these are not outdated. Operating gowns and used sheets, diapers, pack wrappers, are always useful. Please check either with the medical missionary you want to help or with Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, Medical Consultant, Foreign Mission Board, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230, before sending these items, for sometimes customs duty and regulations plus shipping costs make the sending of these items prohibitive, and the missionary may have to pay large sums of money to receive the packages.

Perhaps one of our greatest needs is personnel. There is so much to do that even with our able and trained national colleagues, we still need more hands to do the work. Perhaps God is calling you or would call you to this work as a physician, a nurse, a dentist, a pharmacist, a laboratory technologist, or in some other capacity. He may be calling your son or daughter, or your grandchildren.

I asked you first of all to pray, but can you really pray without committing your life and talents to him? If God is leading you or others in your family in this direction, or you think he might lead you our way, write the Personnel Department of the Foreign Mission Board, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230. Friends there will be most happy to correspond with you, to answer your questions, and to help in life decisions. Thank you again for your interest, your concern, and your prayer.

Yours in His Service,
Medical Missionary, M.D.

IT HAPPENS IN LEBANON

Many of the old folkways of the Lebanese are gone forever or are disappearing in this generation; some linger only in the memories of the older generation.

Lebanese Proverbs

"Every country has its customs and every tree its shade" (*Kul balad laha zayy wakul shajara laha fayy*).
 "Blood never changes into water" (*Id-damm ma biseer maay*).

Family Tradition

Strong ties of love, pride, respect, and tradition bind members of a Lebanese family together, for the heart of Lebanon is the family. A good family name is as important as an education, and a man or woman will make great personal sacrifices for the good of the family; however, in the past few years traditional regard of a Lebanese for his birthright seems to have changed. There is yet the almost tribal obligation prevailing in many families, and this is still an important key to the daily behavior of the Lebanese people.

Courtship and Marriage

Today the old and new customs of courtship and marriage offer vivid contrast. In the larger towns, some girls who have earned a measure of freedom while attending college may be permitted to choose their husbands in much the same manner as Western girls do, but in remote mountain villages where the old customs and traditions are still prac-

ticed, little is left to chance in getting a husband.

The girl gladly falls into step with the arrangements which the family makes, for she realizes it is important to the prestige of her family that she marry. The Eastern girl is brought up to feel proud if her family can arrange an exceptional marriage for her; and even today the educated Lebanese girl is slow to go against her parents' wishes in matrimony, for she realizes it may affect family position. Usually the Lebanese girl marries quite young, and her husband, generally, will be a number of years older than she.

In times past, the girl not only had no voice in the choosing of her husband, but also she did not get to see him until after the wedding ceremony.

It is up to the girl's family to give the engagement party and to decide how lavish it will be. When all guests have arrived, the bride-to-be is permitted to show herself. If only the immediate families are present for this affair, usually the mother-in-law, or sometimes the father-in-law, places the rings on the fingers of the couple. The ring is worn on the right hand during the engagement and is transferred to the left hand after marriage. After the placement of the rings, the girl is joyously embraced by all her relatives and future in-laws except her fiancé. In the more modern families he, too, is allowed to embrace her.

The Arabic blessing of hope for

this occasion is: "May your life be happy, God willing" (*Al-hayyur bihammou*). Small cups of Arabic coffee and sugarc coated almonds are served to guests.

After the engagement period, which may last one month or may go into years if there is financial difficulty, comes the wedding. In the larger towns, such as Beirut, the wedding may be a combination of Eastern and Western traditions and customs, while in the remote mountain villages, the old wedding customs prevail. As guests leave the church, each is handed a box of traditional sugarc coated almonds. These are given as a good luck token and are to be eaten immediately.

Food

If one stays for a meal in an Arab home, he is in for a treat. Though it is possible to list on the fingers of two hands the foods which are basic in the Lebanese diet, the varieties and combinations of these foods are many.

National Dish of Lebanon—*Kibbeh*

2 cups cubed tender lamb
 2 cups *burghal* (crushed wheat)
 2 medium sized onions
 2 tsp salt
 1/2 tsp pepper
 ice water

The lean meat of the lamb is cubed and pounded in a mortar with a wooden mallet. Salt is added during the pounding, considered to be done with the meat is very patty. The onion

by Maxine King
missionary

is then pounded with a teaspoon of salt and pepper until reduced to a pulp. This is then combined with the pounded meat until the whole becomes a smooth paste. The *burghal* is washed quickly in running water, then pressed to remove the water, then kneaded by hand into the meat and once again pounded in the mortar. Salt is added to taste. The mixture is dipped in ice water from time to time to keep the meat moist and smooth. Properly pounded *kibbeh* takes at least one hour. The whole process can be shortened by the use of the fine blade of a meat grinder, but this is not considered good practice!

Arab or Turkish Coffee

1 heaping tsp dark roasted powdered coffee

1 tsp sugar for each coffee cup of water

Mix together and bring to a frothing boil and shake down three times. Allow grounds to settle. Serve in small cups.

Lebanese Bread

It is made in the same way as in biblical times and contains no shortening or milk. Its ingredients are flour, water, salt, and leavening, or yeast, it is shaped and baked in a number of ways. Generally, though, it looks something like a puffy pancake about a handspan in diameter and less than a finger's breadth in thickness. The form of the bread and its gradual separation into two layers when it is cool makes it ideal for a sandwich.

by Fayly H. Cothern

When you were a child, did you ever wish for a story-book tale to come true? A book came to life was my feeling a couple of summers ago. In *Roots in Adobe*, Dorothy Pillsbury gives vivid, colorful descriptions of Spanish Americans who sit and chat beside the corner fireplace in her adobe house.

What a delight it was for this writer to sit by that sure-enough fireplace and talk about the real-life people in Mrs. Pillsbury's book. The characters were real, she asserted, only the names were changed in order to protect her precious friends.

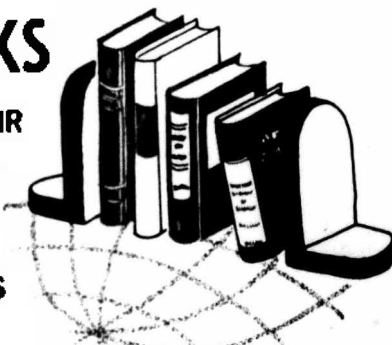
We talked about Uncle Canute. He was the delightful old man who made a pilgrimage into the forest in search of a wagon tongue. Not only will that tale hold you enthralled but may serve as a marvelous illustration for devotional comments.

You will chuckle over Aunt Tias' method of coping with problems. Housecleaning was absolutely no problem to her. You may feel the urge to accept her philosophical approach to life.

Roots in Adobe is the type book that you can read for a while, then put it aside for a day or two without having to backtrack to get the feel of the story again. It is light reading. Yet it gives clear, vivid pictures of people who are real Spanish Americans and Indian Americans and who come to life in this charming book. You'll be happy to read it.

Roots in Adobe Dorothy Pillsbury, \$4.00
 from Baptist Book Stores.

**BOOKS
 AND THEIR
 MEANING
 FOR
 MISSIONS**





WIDE USE of Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

-In Africa

On every trip through Africa, I am caused again and again to thank God for what has been made possible through this great Christmas love offering. But for it, what we are doing to exalt Christ and to extend his kingdom on the continent of Africa would be cut in half, and our work sorely curtailed.

As I dictate this in Blantyre, Malawi, I feel that I am speaking for all the missionaries of Africa as they urge you in all the churches of our Convention to show love for our Lord in a generous offering at the Christmas season in 1966.

While it is true that we simply could not operate without the funds provided through the Cooperative Program, it is increasingly true that our regular operating expenses for every type of activity on the missions field is partly made possible by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

There was a time when the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was used primarily to provide buildings and equipment on missions fields. Increasingly it has been called upon for current operating expenses, for the day-by-day missions program.

Many schools and hospitals in Africa have their regular operating funds supplied almost entirely from this special Christmas offering. Among institutions supported in large part by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering are Ricks Institute, a splendid school for Liberian boys and girls at Monrovia; the Ghana Baptist Seminary at Abuakwa, Ghana; the Nalerigu Medical Center in Northern Ghana; two Baptist College in Nigeria; Jos Baptist High School in Nigeria; and Baptist Women's Training College at Abeokuta, Nigeria.

The Baptist Hospital and Nursing School at Eku, Ni-

geria, could not operate apart from help from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The same is true of the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary in Ogbomosho, the Sanyati Baptist Hospital in Rhodesia, the community centers in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Along with regular expenses provided through the annual operating budget, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering continues to provide a good portion of the buildings and equipment needed on the missions field. Missionary residences, schools, medical equipment, mission vehicles, typewriters, desks, and chairs all become solid realities at the places in which they are needed as a result of prayer and sacrificial giving poured out at the Christmas season by the members of our churches.

Needs Listed for Africa in 1966 Allocation

East Africa—W.M.U. Work	144
Ghana—Nalerigu Medical Center and Leprosy Work	420
Liberia—Ricks Institute	100
Nigeria—Eku Baptist Hospital and Nursing School	100
Ogbomosho Seminary	100
Zambia—Property Operating Requirements	131



by H. Cornell Guerner
Secretary for Africa



by John D. Hughey
Secretary for Europe
and the Middle East

-In Europe and the Middle East

Much of the money for day-to-day work by missionaries and nationals and for property comes from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. No wonder missionaries and others listen each year with such interest as reports of contributions are heard. There is much rejoicing when news is received that needed allocations can be made.

Our budget for 1967 anticipates funds from the Christmas offering to help pay salaries of pastors and evangelists, operate schools ranging from kindergarten through seminary, promote student work, pay for literature, run hospitals, and do many other things in the name of Christ. Wouldn't it be tragic if this money could not become available? In the spring when the total gifts are known, requests from the various missions for money to build or repair churches, schools, hospitals, and homes for missionaries will be acted on. Much de-

pends on what happens then, and what is done then depends on what happens now at the Christmas season.

As you make your offering this year, think of sick people being healed in Jordan, Gaza, and Yemen; children and young people being educated in Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, and Italy; evangelists and pastors being prepared for their work in Switzerland, Spain, Italy, and Lebanon; men, women, and children listening to the gospel, studying the Bible, and being prepared for church membership throughout Europe and the Middle East. Visualize missionaries and Christians of many nationalities working side by side. Try to imagine yourself standing beside them and at work with them. That is really what you do through prayer and your gifts.

Without the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, our missionary effort would have to be reduced by nearly one half in Europe and the Middle East. That would mean withdrawing missionaries from several countries, crippling the work done by nationals and missionaries everywhere, and sharply reducing or eliminating appropriations for purchasing land and constructing buildings for missionary residences, churches, schools, and hospitals. I am glad we do not have to dwell on such a sad prospect. By tithes and offerings to the Cooperative Program and for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Southern Baptists continue to expand the effort they are making around the world for the salvation of men and the glory of God.

Needs Listed for Europe and the Middle East in 1966 Allocations:

France—Pastors and Other Church Workers	\$ 4,000
Gaza—Baptist Hospital	78,000
Germany—Student Work	200
Israel—Nazareth Schools	45,000
Italy—Publication Work	24,000
Jordan—Ajloun Hospital	56,000
Student Scholarships	4,800
Lebanon—Seminary	19,500
Spain—Barcelona Seminary	20,230
Switzerland—Seminary	100,000



by Frank Means
Secretary for
Latin America

-In Latin America

What is the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering meant to Latin America? It is the needed budget appropriations for the current day work of missionaries, missions, and Baptist missions. As the work progresses, budget

needs also expand. It has not seemed right to appoint more and more missionaries unless they can be equipped with the budgets and tools needed to make their efforts, as well as those of Missions and conventions, have maximum effectiveness. To proceed on any other basis would be poor stewardship.

... Timely capital grants which have made possible a vast array of sorely needed buildings and equipment. Consider just a few of the items last year's offering provided: missionary housing, missionary transportation, school and seminary buildings, church building loan funds, church buildings, strategic properties, materials and equipment for publication ministries, radio and television equipment, assemblies and encampments, good will centers, hospital buildings, pastors' homes, office equipment, an airplane to serve Brazil's remote interior, audio-visual equipment, library books and book store stock, a tent for evangelistic campaigns, a new medical clinic in Honduras.

What else is needed?

-In the Orient

Miss Lottie Moon's actual missionary service in China ended many years ago; but through the medium of the offering which she inspired, Lottie Moon returns to the Orient every year.

Missionaries in every field have a great deal of confidence in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Just as they look to the Cooperative Program for their salaries and the meeting of the basic expenses of their work, so they look to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for supplementing funds for month-by-month operating needs; and especially for the providing of land and buildings for expansion of the work. The first list of items for each year's offering goes toward the essential operating budget needs. The later lists drawn up, as the amount of the offering is becoming known, provide for capital needs.

Naturally the missionaries look forward with eager concern each year to see how Southern Baptists have responded to the needs of a lost world through both the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. They are anxious to know how many of the urgent land and building needs for their field can be met—or which ones may have to wait until another year. How the missionaries join in fervent prayer as Christmas approaches and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is being given! And in the spring months when the money is beginning to reach the missions fields, missionaries and national Christians who see the beginning

... More missionary appointees and missionary support. Consecrated, well-equipped missionaries are the most valuable contribution Southern Baptists make to the Lord's cause and the nations of the world.

... Deeper understanding and Christian compassion, love, and prayer support for Latin American Baptists, by Woman's Missionary Union.

... Help and hope which would have been impossible apart from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Needs Listed for Latin America in 1966 Allocations

Argentina—Audio Visual Aids	\$ 1,500
Brazil—Schools	190,993
Colombia—Book Store	4,111
Ecuador—Publications and Literature	4,481
Honduras—Conferences, Conventions and Retreats	300
Taguacigua Medical Clinic	5,600
Jamaica—Radio and Television Evangelism	3,900
Mexico—Good Will Centers	960

of projects long prayed for and hoped for, offer prayers of thanksgiving to God.

And so Miss Lottie Moon returns to the Orient year after year—returning each year with increased blessing for our missions work because of the spirit and devotion of the Baptist women who have promoted and prayed for this Christmas offering.

Needs Listed for the Orient in 1966 Allocations

Hong Kong—Baptist College	4,000
Indonesia—Radio and Television Work	600
Japan—Nursing School	4,000
Language Study	100
Korea—Baptist Hospital	1,000
Malaysia—Book Stores	100
Philippines—Evangelistic Work	500
Thailand—Summer Camps	400
Vietnam—Publication Work	500



by Winston Cray,
Secretary for the

“Behold the Lamb of God...”

Behold Him As Healer

by Heten Fling

Behold Him As Teacher

Behold Him As Preacher

Behold Him As Saviour

Behold His Salvation



Our WMU President
Mrs. Robert Fling

At the 1966 WMU Annual Meeting in Detroit, Mrs. Fling was elected for the fourth time as president of Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention.

The message of John the Baptist, recognizing Christ as Saviour, meant much to Charles Haddon Spurgeon. He preached on it frequently; it was ever in his heart and came easily to his lips. A day or two before beginning a great London revival at the Crystal Palace, he went into the building to decide where the platform should be erected. In order to test the acoustical properties of the building, he cried in a loud voice: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!" Often thereafter he told the story of a workman in the galleries who knew nothing of his purpose but heard the words which "came like a message from heaven to his soul." The workman was convicted of sin, put down his tools, went home, and after a season of spiritual struggling, found peace and life by beholding the Lamb of God.

The response to this message of John 1:29 is not always as dramatic as this workman experienced, but it is the message, when received by human hearts today, that brings release from the guilt of sin, peace on earth, as well as eternal life, to the believer.

Spurgeon's inadvertent witness reminds us anew at this Christmas season that we are indeed "disciples unawares." If we "behold" Christ in all his beauty of character, of limitless love, of relatedness to man's need, we shall grow like him. And we "may by [our] good works, which they shall behold, glorify God" (1 Peter 2:12). During this Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions let us behold him, the beloved Son, and reveal him as Lord of our lives throughout the days ahead.

Pray During December

Theme:

"BEHOLD the Lamb of God"

John 1:29



by Juanita Morrill Wilkinson

WEEK of PRAYER for FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Sunday through Sunday)

December 4-11, 1966

Prayer Committee—

Prepare with Great Care For a WEEK of Prayer

Prepare prayerfully and carefully for a Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions.

Call your committee members together at once. Also ask the stewardship, publicity, community missions chairman to meet with you.

Before you meet together, study November and December Forerunner sections which deal with the week of prayer. Read through all the material in *ROYAL SERVICE* to be used during the week of prayer and ask those who will meet with you to do so. The stewardship chairman will want to have ready suggestions for encouraging church members to give to the Little Moon Christmas Offering. The publicity chairman will work with you and the stewardship chairman on plans for encouraging participation in the week of prayer and in the offering. The community missions chairman will have suggestions for ways to implement the suggestion in "Let Us Behold Him" for each day.

At the committee meeting you will make decisions about all these and designate specific responsibility, keeping careful minutes so that follow-up can be made. All but the members of your prayer committee could then leave. Next the prayer committee plans for each day's observance and designates persons to be responsible for different phases of the meetings. Some prayer committees accept extra copies of *ROYAL SERVICE*, study each day's materials, decide on whether some items will be omitted if time is not time, or add other material if they see ways to strengthen a day's observance. Then they cut out what will be omitted, puts up all that will be used, and give it to the leader for the day. This avoids meeting overruns.

You will plan also how you will distribute the book or Bible-mark to each family. In some churches the W.M.U. president asks the pastor to write a letter to every church family suggesting that all participate in the week of prayer by using each day the suggestions in the book mark and in *Call to Prayer*. Each family is encouraged to decide as a family on their gifts to the Little Moon Christmas Offering.

You may want to suggest to your pastor that he preach on missions on December 4. This is a wonderful way to begin the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions.

Plan for Book Signs. Some churches ask one person to be seated early at the front of the room, and as the people come the leader and book the group. This requires only a leader for each day, plus minutes and those able to read the signposts themselves, both of whom also make contact throughout the prayer week. This

procedure provides for a quiet, meditative, prayerful atmosphere.

This week you may wish to ask one person to lead the entire "Period of Quiet Meditation" every day. On tape you may record the "Focusing" sections, or a good reader (preferably out of sight) could read this section slowly and distinctly. A third person could conclude with the remaining sections. Watch your time.

Items Materials Ready:

Large and small posters

A book- or Bible-mark folder in sufficient quantities for each church family to have one

A plastic record on which is recorded the hymn for the week, "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne," and a message from Dr. Baker James Cautchen. (This record should be placed in the church library or a designated place in W.M.U. youth organizations and others will have access to it.)

Program covers, 25 for 55 cents; 100 for \$2.00 from Women's Missionary Union, 600 North Twentieth Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203, or Baptist Book Stores

Information for promotion:

In the *ROYAL SERVICE*—

Mr. Fligg's message, page 37

Dr. Cautchen's message, page 9

Appeals from Area Secretaries, pages 34-6
October and November, 1966 *The Commission*
A leaflet, "How Two Churches Did It," free upon request from Foreign Missions Board, P. O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230

State Baptist Papers

Suggestions for Family Observance

Use the book or Bible-mark and *Call to Prayer* each day, December 4-11.

To meet the needs of your family, use these *ROYAL SERVICE*:

Week of Prayer material, page 38

Mr. Fligg's message, page 37

Dr. Cautchen's message, page 9

Appeals from Area Secretaries, pages 34-6

Talk together about your gifts to the Little Moon Christmas Offering.

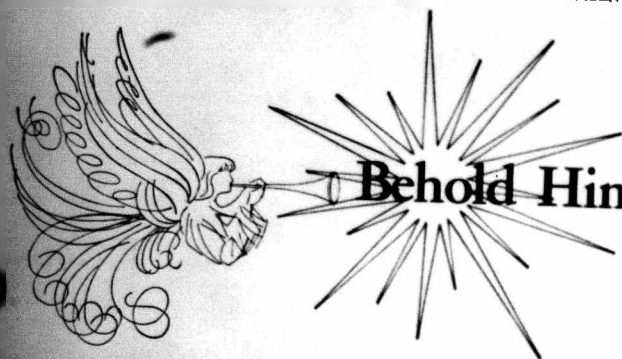
Participate in corporate worship as planned for in the church during this Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions.

SUNDAY

December 4

Today you begin the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. No doubt your pastor will preach this morning on a missionary theme. The theme for the corporate observance of the week is "Behold the Lamb of God." Each day Monday through Thursday your WMS will consider a characteristic of Jesus' ministry: healer, teacher, preacher, Saviour. On Friday there is a joyous note—"Mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Use bookmark. Turn to Call to Prayer for Sunday.



Behold Him As Healer

Period of Quiet Meditation

(Women enter without speaking and sit quietly.)

Sing, or play record: "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"
Speak to My Heart (read or provide copies for those present):

When we pray, we often do all the talking. Today in these quiet moments, let us listen for the voice of God. He knows the desires of our hearts; he knows the needs of our lives. Jesus is our intercessor before God as we pray.

Upon one occasion Jesus searched the hearts of the disciples and he said: "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1). A straightforward faith will relieve the anxious heart. The writer of Proverbs yearned for an understanding heart (Prov. 8:5). Paul urged the Colossians to put on a heart of compassion (Col. 3:12). Pray continually that God will give you an understanding and compassionate heart if you would behold others in realization of their needs.

Jesus came into the world to reveal God's heart of love for his lost creation, as well as to redeem the lost. How deep is your love for lost humanity? Jesus re-

December 4. Read the comments and pray as directed. Pray as a family.

There may not be time this morning to attend Church School for you to discuss the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering which each will make this week. But before the day is over, a family council should be called to discuss and decide. Pray now about your gift.

Will Dad participate in Brotherhood plans for the week, sons in RA Week of Prayer plans, and daughters in GA and YWA? Will children be in Sunday School meetings? Has Mother cleared her schedule so she can participate in WMS plans? Your family can experience spiritual growth this week. It largely depends upon the mother's attitude.

MONDAY, December 5

Remember the multitudes that "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21). Do your investments show the concern of your heart? Read in use women solist to sing. A solist may remain seated and sing the first verse of "Speak to My Heart" then silent prayer may follow.)

Speak to my heart, Lord Jesus,

Speak that my soul may hear,

Speak to my heart, Lord Jesus,

Calm every doubt and fear

B B McKISS

Prayer

Call to Prayer (Continue to pray as you hear the roll call of missionaries on the prayer calendar, see p. 12, ROYAL SERVICE.)

Behold Him As Healer (read Luke 4:38-41)

Each of the Gospel writers portrays Jesus in a

Copyright 1927 by Robert H. Coleman. Renewed 1957
man Press. Used by permission.

ministry. No doubt, Luke, the physician, had a special interest in the role of Jesus as healer. In this story of the healing of Simon's mother-in-law, which we have just read, three groups of people were involved.

1. *The Petitioners*.—The friends and family of the patient brought their request to Jesus. They were concerned about the ill woman. They had confidence in Jesus that he could heal her. Their faith in Jesus brought them to the point of intercession for her suffering condition.

2. *The Physician*.—Jesus had a compassionate heart. Matthew and Mark noted that Jesus touched her (compare Matt. 8:14-17 and Mark 1:29-31). Luke recorded that Jesus rebuked the fever. By a touch, a command of the voice, the power of Jesus' healing ministry was operative. The raging seas and the feverish body were calmed at the sound of the voice of Jesus. Jesus took it upon himself to bring relief to suffering people about him. Notice Matthew's description of this miracle. He quoted Isaiah 53:4: "Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (Matt. 8:17).

3. *The Patient*.—The Scriptures do not give any other reference to the mother-in-law of Simon. Although we do not know her age, we are assured that she was a mature person. The Scriptures do not record her medical history, but Luke indicates that she had a great fever. It was not an uncommon illness, but her illness was of concern and anxiety to her loved ones. It warranted the immediate attention of the healer. Her response to Jesus was, "she arose, and ministered to them." To her thoughtful friends, her anxious family, to the Master Healer himself, she expressed her gratitude by ministering to their needs. Through the performance of domestic tasks, she was of service. A loving and grateful response is best expressed in worthy action, using our skills and talents.

Throughout the world today a multitude of women and men, boys and girls have physical illnesses with little possibility of finding medical aid. Following the command of Jesus, "Go and heal the sick" (Luke 10:3, 9), Southern Baptists are engaged in a ministry of compassion for suffering mankind. By sending out trained medical personnel and equipping them adequately, we have many opportunities of meeting inner-spiritual needs with the gospel. The nurse, doctor, dentist, technician, administrator in bedside visits, Bible classes, and daily donations tell their patients about Jesus, the Son of God, the Loving Physician. Many people respond under these circumstances to the wooing of the Holy Spirit.

With a background of native drumbeating, Christians from a leprosy settlement sing joyously the praises of God. In a hospital ward, a lad with rheumatic fever accepts Jesus as Saviour and Lord and goes home to tell others. A mother with newborn twins flees to a Baptist hospital for protection, her friends consider twins a

curse. A national receives her nurse's certificate and uses her skill to meet the health needs of her own people in villages.

Twenty centuries have passed since Simon's mother-in-law was healed by Jesus. Many missionaries and nationals are in a healing ministry today in his name. Like this woman of long ago, there are many with grateful hearts who respond to the Master Healer and minister to others in his name.

Pray with gratitude to God for his continual concern for the whole man (pray).

Southern Baptists provide personnel and funds for twenty hospitals and six schools of nursing overseas. These hospitals treated 42,690 inpatients and 462,278 outpatients last year.

Pray for the men and women who have dedicated their skills and talents to reaching suffering humanity in the name of the Lord (pray).

Pray for the multitudes of people who are being helped physically and spiritually by medical missions (pray).

There are 151 medical missionaries. \$694,667 is allocated this year in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for overseas medical work. Pray that Southern Baptists will extend and strengthen medical missions opportunities through additional personnel, prayer, and increased offering (pray).

Sing "The Great Physician" (seated solist sings verse 1)

Focusing on Africa

(Display map and locate countries as their names are called.)

Let us look briefly at the eleven African countries in which we support missionary work.

An African man under the hot Kenyan sun digs in a dry river bed, getting ready to plant seeds in the parched earth. A drought is predicted; thousands of persons may die. Women in a Malawi village plow, plant, and pound corn into meal and cook it for basic food. Mothers carry babies on their backs and heavy loads on their heads. A drummer in Ghana "talks" with his drums conveying important news to a nearby village. The music of the drums opens a session of Ghana's parliament even as it is the tonal basis of Ghanaian dialects. In Tanzania sisal, coffee, cotton, and diamonds are main items exported.

The mighty Nile River, beginning its 4,132-mile course at Lake Victoria in Uganda, Central Africa, empties into the Blue Mediterranean after it passes through ancient Cairo. The rich copper belt of Zambia attracts many Africans, offering high wages and better living standards. Copper is the economic heart of Zambia with mines and refineries located in Chingola and Kiewe

...in the beautiful city of Salisbury. Rhodesia's modern metropolis provides wares from many thousands of white people as well as to ne-

...among the nations of Africa is Nigeria on the continent, with a population of 56 million people of over 200 tribes. It is the most populous independent nation on that vast continent. Abundant in minerals and in a strategic geographical location, Nigeria is one of Africa's most promising countries.

Timber and rubber are chief products of Liberia, a neighbor to Nigeria. Most exports go to the United States. A development program to build new schools, public buildings, low-cost housing, and electric power plants has been under way since 1945.

Between Liberia and Ghana is the Ivory Coast. Coffee and cacao account for 60 percent of its export trade. Iron-ore, tungsten, and other fine minerals are the third most valuable export. Village people live under thatched roofs above whitewashed

...is hot and humid like many other parts of Africa. Its chief industry is agriculture with large exports of coffee and cacao.

...the varied environments of these eleven African nations (Ghana, Ivory Coast Republic, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia), and in the midst of their social, economic, and political revolutions, only 487 Southern Baptist missionaries are witnessing of the Saviour of the world to their 106,980,000 people.

...this effort has one unchanging purpose—to witness to the human heart. "The path to the human heart is not two inches long, but it has taken surgery 2,400 years to move it," said the surgeon, a pupil of the great physician who is thought to be the first to perform a successful operation on the human heart. Back of that physician was Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine, who lived in 460 a.c.

...2,400 years of research and practice to pierce that inch to the human heart. The path to the heart of all the world is only one inch from the human heart. To pierce that inch, the Christian worker must often traverse all the barriers that concern life today: personal, racial, social and inter-racial prejudices, religious and social creeds, national and international misapprehensions. Every plan, every policy, every agency of the missions is an endeavor to overcome these barriers. We wrote Mrs. W. J. Cox, former president of the International Missionary Union.

...the heart of Africa involves the crossing of religious barriers, particularly religious barriers. One of the most powerful religious persuasions among the Negroes is Islam, the religion of Mohammed. The

use of prayer beads and rituals of prayer has strong appeal to a people who are accustomed to tangible objects in their worship. Gradually, however, the Baptist witness of love and concern through missions hospitals makes an impact on the African Christian who learns to serve in Jesus' name. Let me tell you a story which illustrates this.

Sarki was a Muslim man who was brought to the missions hospital in Katsina in Nigeria's predominantly Muslim area. Among his meager possessions were his Muslim prayer beads and board used in copying from the Koran. While at the hospital awaiting diagnosis of his paralyzed condition, he indicated interest in the Christian gospel. When his condition was diagnosed as tuberculous of the spine, the doctor recommended that he be transferred to an orthopedic hospital at Kano, more than 340 miles away. It was a difficult journey for a paralyzed man.

A Christian African male nurse, going to Kano on vacation, offered his assistance to Sarki to stay with him until he arrived safely at the hospital. At the rail-road station, the nurse had a malaria attack. But in spite of his own illness, he cared for the paralyzed man, "demonstrating Christianity in action," someone observed.

Baptists have a hospital at Katsina, a town of almost six thousand people. There are nine missionaries there. \$21,806 from the 1966 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goes to this work. Let us thank God for this hospital, for missionaries and nationals, who make up the healing team. Express gratitude for dedicated African Christians (pray).

Senses of Directed Prayer

A young Muslim, bitter and resentful, was in the Hansen's disease (leprosy) settlement at Ogbosho, Nigeria. His name was Mufusa. When he was almost ready to leave the settlement, he was persuaded to stay a while longer. Within a couple of months, Mufusa became a Christian. He asked that his Muslim home be used no more, but that he be called Matthew. Where, as he had previously felt annoyed by other patients, he now sought their friendship. At his farewell church service he declared: "My disease has brought blessing. He returned to his family and friends with testimony. "Jesus has changed me so much." Dr. Robert F. Gable, in charge of this work, now goes from village to village examining and treating those who formerly were in the settlement. A part of your Lottie Moon Christmas Offering through the years has helped in the treatment of these unfortunate people.

Pray for the national Christians who return home as witnesses to the power of the living Christ. Pray that they may be strengthened in realization that the power in witnessing is as great as his power in healing.

Thank God that you have helped provide this ministry (pray).

In the country of Ghana, housing for leprosy patients needing intensive treatment is already under construction at the Ghana Baptist Leprosy Service in Nalerigu. A tuberculosis village is also being planned there. Occupational therapeutic aids will be available; literacy classes and Bible study provided. These services are connected with the 40-bed Baptist hospital which was erected on the 700-acre site owned by Baptists in this small town, Nalerigu, of 3,000 people in Northeast Ghana. From this year's offering \$55,820 has been allocated for the Nalerigu Medical Center. Pray for this healing and evangelistic ministry (pray).

In 1964 more than one thousand conversions were reported in Nigeria alone by five missions hospitals. Pray for evangelistic efforts made possible in Africa by medical missions (pray).

Medicine opens the door to witnessing opportunities in Tanzania. The 120-bed tuberculosis hospital in Mbeya is always filled to capacity. When the patients are released, a follow-up care and evangelistic program reaches into the surrounding mountain villages. Dr. Jack Walker is head of the hospital. Rev. David H. Whitson is the evangelist. Pray that God will use these extended opportunities of witnessing (pray).

In December, 1962, the first Southern Baptist missionary couple, Dr. and Mrs. Hal Boone, arrived in Uganda to begin medical work, working out from a town of 30,000 people. The following year another couple, Rev. and Mrs. G. Webster Carroll, joined them to complete the team. Missionary doctor and missionary preacher work as a mobile unit joining hands in reaching people for Christ. In Uganda there are ten missionaries, two churches with 120 members, and there are twelve national pastors. Pray for the many unreached people in Uganda (pray).

Mobile medical units have reached out into areas adjacent to Baptist hospitals. In Rhodesia in Central Africa, Dr. and Mrs. Samuel R. J. Cannata live on Gokwe reservation, which is across the Sanyati River from the Baptist hospital on the Sanyati Reserve, where Dr. Giles Fort is located.

Mrs. Cannata writes: "A pilot project in medical care is being carried out from Gokwe by my doctor husband, Sam. He is attempting a type of outpatient clinic work over a large area. He will build no hospital, but plans to equip the clinic at Sesami Mission Station to handle emergencies. He has five outclinics, including the large weekly clinic at Sesami, and mobile sites where he meets patients once a week and handles treatment from his clinic car. The purpose of this type of ministry is to preach the gospel and show Christian compassion through medical missions without making people

dependent on an institution." Missionary Bud Fray works with Dr. Cannata in this medical-evangelistic effort.

Pray for the hospital on the Sanyati Reserve and for the strengthening and witnessing of the Cannatas and the Frays (pray).

Medical costs continue to rise. On missions fields fees are charged according to ability to pay. A small payment helps patient attitude and keeps down total cost of operation. The Shaki Baptist Hospital in Nigeria, by strict economy, came very near to a self-supporting basis during 1964. Increase in medical costs is one of the many reasons an enlarged Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is urgently needed. Facilities, supplies, equipment require money. An increased offering will provide many pressing needs in missions hospitals. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal this year is \$14,500,000; our church goal is \$_____ (tell it). Pray that Southern Baptists will bring with great enthusiasm increased gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering to provide medical care for the sick and for many other causes (pray).

Appeal for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by Dr. Cornell Goerner, Secretary for Africa (see p. 34 and tell it).

Inauguration of Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving: After the offering has been given, lead in a prayer of thanksgiving expressing gratitude for the opportunity we have for our money to be used in medical missions (pray).

Let Us Behold Him—Living the Way We Pray

At the end of the day a woman bowed in prayer saying: "O Lord, bless everyone; lift from each saddened heart the pain, and let the sick be well again." Reflecting over the prayer, she knew that "everyone" was such a safe word. It did not involve her with a specific person, and she remembered that she had not even gone next door to see her sick neighbor nor shared the burden of any heart that day. She also remembered that God works on earth by hands that serve him. Again she prayed: "Let me but live another day, and I will live the way I pray."

Our prayer may lead us today to visit a nursing home, provide transportation for a needy person to the doctor or clinic, minister to a nonresident patient in the hospital, prepare and distribute a prayer folder or card, roll bandages for a hospital, or minister to a student nurse in some thoughtful way. Let us be doers of the Word, as well as hearers.

Benediction

most powerful in the world. Today she is struggling to achieve a place of progress in modern Europe. Spanish fiestas and bullfights attract millions of tourists each year.

Fashions and France have become synonymous. France has also long been known as a nation of contradictions and revolutions. Tourists come by the thousands to visit the resort areas or view the old buildings and museums.

Beauty and intrigue are the most fitting words to describe the small country of Portugal. Ancient buildings, multi-colored apartments, and modern subways provide a colorful view in her main cities. Tradition and experience are deeply ingrained, and the Portuguese continue to strive for an improved country.

The major languages of the nearly six million people in Switzerland are German, French, and Italian.

The little country of Luxembourg has a population of 330,000, and the chief languages are French and German.

In Europe, in the Communist countries of Yugoslavia and Hungary, there are not now living any Southern Baptist missionaries, but Baptists in these countries are being blessed of the Lord and funds from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering encourage and assist them. Limited financial assistance is given for the operating expenses of Baptists in Belgium and in Finland, through the European Baptist Federation.

In the North Atlantic lies Iceland where winter temperatures seldom fall below freezing. From mid-November to mid-January the sun may shine from four to six hours daily whereas summer daylight may last for almost twenty-four hours. Cod, herring, halibut, and haddock are the chief fish catches, and the country is dependent on trade for fruit and vegetables. Since 1951, United States troops have been stationed in Iceland under the NATO agreement.

This rapid look at the eighteen countries of this area where Foreign Mission Board work is involved recalls to mind the diversity in which we try to proclaim the gospel. Against the backdrop of old established traditions caught up to meet the demands of twentieth century society, 144 Southern Baptist missionaries assist nationals as they are expanding an evangelical witness in Europe and the Middle East.

On the coast of North Africa, additional opportunities for witnessing are being extended now and in the near future in United Arab Republic (Egypt), Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco. In addition to preaching and medical ministries, we have also engaged in educational work among the 762 million people of the Middle East and Europe. Aware of the darkness of ignorance, many young people will go to any lengths for an education. Communist Lenin wrote: "We must educate men who devote to the revolution not only their free evenings, but their whole lives." This is expected from his fol-

lowers who are dedicated to atheism and the enslavement of mankind in rebellion against God in a political system which we call communism.

As men, women, and children are won to Christ each needs to be taught more about God and his way. The Christian Service Training Center located in Haifa, Israel, trains Christian laymen and women for more effective leadership in their churches. Lectures are given in Hebrew, Arabic, and English. Teachers are retirees, a former Catholic priest are among the eleven students who meet one evening a week in a four-hour session. Of Arab and Jewish background the students are now meeting in quarters lent by the Nazareth church. Let us pray that badly needed permanent headquarters may soon become a reality. \$150,000 from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is allocated for Baptist work in Israel (pray).

In Massy, France, near Paris, the French Baptist pastors' school opened in October, 1964 and operates a full two-year program during the 1965-66 session. Ten students were enrolled. One student is a man from the Republic of the Congo. Persons from other French language countries are expected to enroll in the future. Building plans provide for forty students. To this work money from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will provide needed funds. Let us pray for the eight Baptist pastors and two Baptist university teachers who assist with the lectures and guidance of this school (pray).

Missionary journeyman Cary Ann Gerton of Texas was employed to work two years as assistant librarian at the seventeen-year-old International Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland. She struggled with the task of typing multilingual letters and book orders. Miss Gerton places high value on the fellowship she experiences with students there from many countries. Enrolling last spring were the first Southern Baptist students. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph de Abrew of Zurich

accomplishments in the Middle East. Let us pray for another school, the Arab Baptist Seminary in Beirut, Lebanon. It was opened in 1964. Fifteen students were enrolled last year. Professors from the United States filled the gap because of a shortage of teachers while missionaries were being sought.

In Spain, their seminary in Barcelona is the fall of 1964 after having been closed for some time. New quarters are urgently needed.

From the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is listed for these three seminaries: \$100,000 for Beirut, \$19,500 for Beirut, and \$20,230 for Beirut. Let us pray for these seminaries and the training of other Christian leaders (pray).

Season of Directed Prayer

In a mountain resort town in Lebanon where no Southern Baptist missionaries are working,



started to visitors from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other nearby Arab countries. Distribution of Bible lessons and Gospels by Baptists was followed by weekly worship services and soon by evangelistic services. The ministry of teaching these summer residents demands prayer (pray).

Believers face harassment in Israel. One father told his daughter that he would rather see her a burglar than a Christian believer. A Christian man in Haifa has been attacked physically and persecuted in many ways for his Christian testimony and witnessing. Pray for converts who face serious harassment from family and friends (pray).

The English-language Immanuel Baptist Church in Madrid, Spain, has acquired a former residence for a place of worship. It is the first Baptist church in Spain to have a building not attached to another building, clearly indicated as a church. Pray for the US Air Force personnel and other Americans in Madrid who make up the membership of this church. Pray for the pastor, missionary James M. Watson (pray).

Educational work is also carried on through the medium of publications. The Italian Baptist Publishing House in Rome is the most extensive publication work by Southern Baptists in Europe and the Middle East.

In Spain greater religious freedom has provided the opportunity to import and print more literature in Spanish. Magazines of the Spanish Baptist Union have sponsored a year-long correspondence course in Christian education. Pray for Christian teaching opportunities in Italy and Spain through the printed word for which \$10,000 is listed in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (pray).

In addition to schools and publications, another of our educational ministries has been provided in broad areas. The Radio Recording Studio in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, produces throughout the year a weekly program in an East European language and small units

of programs in Hungarian, Italian, and Spanish. Missionary associate E. Wesley Miller is consultant in setting up a radio studio in Paris and in program production in several countries. The \$7,500 from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will be far-reaching as these broadcasts are beamed into many countries. Let us pray for the radio ministry which proclaims the Christian gospel (pray).

From the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, \$4,800 is allocated for this work.

of programs in Hungarian, Italian, and Spanish. Missionary associate E. Wesley Miller is consultant in setting up a radio studio in Paris and in program production in several countries. The \$7,500 from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will be far-reaching as these broadcasts are beamed into many countries. Let us pray for the radio ministry which proclaims the Christian gospel (pray).

Appeal for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by Dr. John D. Huphey, Secretary for Europe and the Middle East (see p. 35 and tell)

Gathering of Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving: After the offering has been gathered, lead in prayer of thanksgiving for opportunities to witness of God's love. God uses prayer to enlarge our heart-concern so that we will give for buildings and equipment. He uses our money to speed missionaries on their way (pray).

Let Us Behold Him—Living the Way We Pray

Man quests for knowledge. The greatest knowledge is the truth found in Jesus Christ, who seeks to reconcile man to God. Once we know the Saviour, we want to learn more from him and tell others about him. Today let us put feet to prayer and live the way we pray.

What can you do *today* to assist local or associational missionaries in mission centers in teaching, preparing Christmas programs, and other activities?

Can you qualify as a missionary associate? Should you write to the Foreign or Home Mission Boards and volunteer for service? Many in our country were in the Home Mission Board's Christian Service Corps last year.

Can you extend a ministry to the deaf in your community or bring people to participate in the observance of prayer this week, or invite neighbor children to go with you to Sunday School?

Benediction

Behold Him As Preacher

WEDNESDAY, December 7

Period of Quiet Meditation

(Those who enter without speaking and sit quietly.)

Sing, or play record: "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"
Speak to My Heart (read or provide copies for those present).

No matter how well we plan, this season of the year seems to become busier each year. The rush of preparation and shopping leaves us in a frenzy. Our nerves are almost shattered. What do you think of this practice? (Allow for two or three responses.) Do you feel a need to stop and evaluate your busy-ness?

Is this blessed time of year one in which you feel keenly God's presence? Do you yearn to walk in benediction before others? Let Jesus who was brought into this world to give you life and peace and joy speak to your heart just now, as you listen to these words (read or use unseen solvent to sing).

Speak to my heart, oh, speak to my heart.

Speak to my heart, I pray.

Yielded and still, seeking Thy will

Oh, speak to my heart today (amen)

B. B. McKISSEY*

Call to Prayer: Let us continue to pray as you listen to the prayer calendar requests today (see p. 13, REVIVAL SERVICE).

Behold Him As Preacher (read Luke 4:16-22)

The synagogue was a place of public worship. Here Jewish people gathered for acts of sacrifice, devotion, prayer and praise, reading and expounding of the Holy Scriptures. Jesus was in the habit of going to the synagogue. At Nazareth, his hometown, he was asked to read the Scriptures in the synagogue on the sabbath.

Standing, he read from Isaiah 61:1-2. It was customary for the reader to stand while reading from the Law and Prophets. Then Jesus sat to expound on the text. He declared to the congregation that the Scriptures were being fulfilled before their eyes.

Jesus himself was the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy which he had read. Like modern-day preachers, Jesus made three points.

1. *Good tidings are for us.* Those who have been deprived of opportunities are in need of the gospel. No one is to be excluded from hearing the gospel because of his remote place of abode. The poor and the meek and humble, recognizing their present condition, would welcome the gospel and would respond to its invitation. Upon another occasion Jesus commended his audience: "They that are whole have no need of a physician, but they that are sick." (for Jesus did not call the righteous, but sinners) (Matt. 9:12).

2. *Proclaim deliverance from sin.* Sinners are forgiven. Through Christ sinners may be made free from the bondage of sin. Jesus, the Great Deliverer, came to another Jewish congregation: "If therefore you shall make me free, ye shall be free also" (John 8:36 ASV).

3. *The day of salvation was at hand.* It was the acceptable year of the Lord. Alluding to the release or year of jubilee (Lev. 25:10), Jesus claimed that God was willing to accept the people on his terms and that reconciliation had been fulfilled in his only begotten Son. Jesus' day of salvation was at hand.

In Nazareth that day his neighbors and relatives did not make favorable response to the preaching of Jesus. They said to one another, "Is this Joseph's son?" They were unable to accept the promised Messiah. They rejected his promise of deliverance. In their rejection, however, they did not deny the truth he proclaimed. Their unbelief to his message did not keep Jesus from other

opportunities. During his entire public ministry, he tried to penetrate unbelieving hearts.

Two-century preachers continue to bear witness to the truth of the message which Jesus delivered that day in the Nazareth synagogue. Like early Christians, today's preachers preach Jesus the Christ (Acts 4:21). Like the preacher-missionary, Paul, missionaries preach "Christ crucified" (1 Cor. 1:23).

Sing: "Wonderful Words of Life"

Focusing on Latin America

(A newspaper times identify countries on map)

Our attention is focused today on the nations south of the United States, where Southern Baptists support missionary work. **Mexico** is a fascinating country with a long history of struggle and problems. This country has experienced, for more than three decades, phenomenal progress in political stability. The country is also making great efforts otherwise. But great mountain ranges make transportation difficult, and vast desert areas are yet wasteland. Miserable poverty and a shortage of schools are apparent in many sections of Mexico.

Guatemala has been described as a world in miniature. Between the shallow Caribbean bay and the Pacific Ocean the tourist is impressed with emerald lakes, steamy jungles, and mountain peaks reaching almost 14,000 feet. Though Guatemala is a land of freedom in many ways it is enslaved to prejudice, ignorance, and superstition.

Nearly half the total area of **Honduras** is covered by forests of mahogany, Spanish cedar, and pine trees. Bananas, coffee, timber, and silver are main exports. One third of Honduras, 43,277 square miles is uninhabited except for primitive Indians. Illiteracy in Honduras has been placed at 60 percent or even higher.

Christopher Columbus on his last voyage to the New World sighted land and made contact with inhabitants. Impressed with the gold ornaments which Carib Indians wore, Columbus assumed the land had an abundance of treasure. He named the newly discovered land, **Costa Rica**, meaning rich coast. Along with Mexico and other Central American countries, Costa Rica declared its independence from Spain in 1821. Enjoying cultural and political riches, as well as agricultural treasures, Costa Rica has also been blessed by a minimum of warfare and an abundance of capable leaders.

Indios appropriately describes **Venezuela**, the world's second largest oil producer. "Unsteady" is a fitting description of her political affairs. A history of instability is recorded in the influence of a series of dictators who poured money into pet projects which became show places in the nation but left the masses in poverty and ignorance. A democratic form of government in Venezuela now is striving to meet the needs of the people.

Beautiful mountains and high plateaus may be found in **Colombia** where the temperature is greatly affected by these. The people are mostly mestizos (mixed Spanish and Indian), resulting from intermarriages between native Indians and Spanish colonialists. The number of full-blooded Indians is small, and only 20 percent of the population now claims to be pure Spanish. Colombia is often described as a "land just being born."

Stretching some 2,660 miles along the southwest coast of South America is the enchanting land of **Chile**. Speaking of their own geography, Chileans often say: "It is long and slim like the hope of the poor." Ten years may elapse before there will be any measurable rainfall in the great Atacama (at-uh-KAHM-uh) Desert. Unlike Venezuela, Chile has enjoyed a stable government and the people have rarely experienced revolution or upheaval.

When visiting **Argentina**, one has the strange sensation that he is in Latin America, but among Europeans. Only one Argentine in thirty is not of European descent. Because many of the people remain in tightly-knit foreign culture circles, it is not unusual to find people who have lived in Argentina fifty years and still speak little Spanish. Constant expansion in industry, education, and material comforts causes the people to long for more comforts, and they are no longer content to compare their lives with disadvantaged neighbors.

Uruguay takes its name from the Uruguay River. The word means "the water from which the uru (parrot) birds come." Uruguay is the most densely populated country in South America, with 45 percent of the total population living in the capital city, Montevideo. Complete religious freedom is granted in this country where educational standards are very high.

Long humid summers and short winters are characteristics of **Paraguay**. Naturally a friendly people, Paraguayans have opened their country to thousands of Germans, Poles, Russians, Italians, Japanese, and people of many other nations. Sleek, modern jet airliners which make regular stops in Montevideo en route to New York City are in contrast to primitive living conditions of interior Paraguay. An exclusive product of Paraguay is the famous *mandur*, or spiderweb lace. This delicate, intricately patterned lace is made by hand and the patterns are handed down from mother to daughter.

When Spanish conquerors reached South America in the sixteenth century, their motives were said to be "gold, glory, and the gospel." Gold and glory have passed away and multitudes of people are still in need of the everlasting gospel. A great native Indian civilization known as the Inca Empire was centered in **Pero** at the time of the early conquerors. These noble Indians with a remarkable civilization were exploited by greedy men seeking material wealth.

The equator-land, **Ecuador**, has torrid jungles, as well as eternal snow and ice, dry, semidesert regions,

*See footnote, page 40

and very heavy rainfall. Although the Awa and Jivaro Indians have a reputation of being primitive jungle tribes, most Ecuadorian Indians are civilized.

Brazil is more like a continent than a country. It is inhabited by nearly half the population of South America and is almost as large as all other South American countries combined. It has been estimated that the endless resources of Brazil could support 500 million people, or seven times her present population.

We may group together in the Caribbean area the Bahamas, Jamaica, Guyana (British Guiana), Trinidad, French West Indies, Dominican Republic, and Bermuda. These islands are passing through turbulent political crises. Radio and TV air waves are filled with political propaganda.

A constant flow of Spanish, French, British, and North American influences has produced a hodgepodge of cultural contrasts.

The Baptist witness in Latin American areas dates back only eighty-six years—to 1880. With our first permanent work in Mexico, God has expanded a Baptist witness to the twenty nations just described. Included in the area of Latin American missions is the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Texas, which provides church literature and books to thirty-nine countries.

Witnessing opportunities in Latin America include education and medical work, but the main emphasis has been the preaching ministry. Recent evangelistic campaigns in Ecuador and Brazil point up the results of evangelistic crusades.

Last January Brazilian Baptists, in annual session, reported that in a yearlong nationwide evangelistic crusade, there had been 100 thousand professions of faith in Christ, 50 thousand baptisms, and 300 churches started. Let us pray for these thousands of people who were won to Christ during a concentrated effort of simultaneous meetings, region by region, in Brazil (pray).

Dr. Rubens Lopes, former president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention, has proposed a challenging undertaking, a hemisphere-wide crusade by Baptists of South Central, and North America. Southern Baptists, along with many other Baptist groups, will participate in this campaign set for 1969. It was launched in the USA at the Southern Baptist Convention last May in Detroit after Brazilian Baptists had accepted Dr. Lopes' challenge. Pray that God will use this evangelistic effort by Baptists of this hemisphere to reap a harvest of newborn souls (pray).

Intensive preparation for simultaneous meetings in Ecuador resulted in 955 professions of faith. Publicity for the meetings flooded the cities of Guayaquil (gway-uh-KEEL), Quito (KEY-to), and Esmeraldas (es-meh-RAHL-dahs). In Quito alone, 50 thousand curb signs and 600 large posters were placed throughout the city.

100 thousand tracts and 50 thousand tracts were issued. One-minute spot radio spots were most effective as scarcely a home was not reached on the radio day and night. A newspaper editor told Quito pastors and missionaries that he would not give free publicity to them or to any other religious group. Then the missionary stated that they were not seeking free publicity, but only that the campaign be reported. The editor replied: "I have a newspaper. If you make news, be you Catholic or Baptist, I will report it." The editor kept his word. For radio and television ministries and evangelistic campaigns, \$126,600 is allocated for Latin America from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Let us thank God for the many facets of publicity which are effectively used to spread the gospel (pray).

Rev. Enrique Marconi Jen-REE-kay mahi-CD-ah is pastor of First Baptist Church, Parana (pau-uh-SAH) Argentina. In a plea for support of an Argentine missionary to work among the Indians of the northern jungle, he said: "I was just a little barefoot boy selling newspapers and shining shoes on a street corner in Rosario (row-ZAIR-ee-oh) when one day I was approached by a foreign couple. The woman with a smile, asked if I would sell her a newspaper. As I handed it to her, the man put his hand on my head and tousled my hair in a friendly gesture. Many years have passed since I had felt such a caress. Then the man said: 'Young man, why don't you come to our house this evening and learn a Bible story?' I went and heard a gospel song and listened for the first time to a story from the Bible—it was Daniel in the lions' den. These two wonderful people led me to know Christ as my Saviour, and my life was completely changed. Please tell Southern Baptists thank you for sending Marie Blair and his wife to Argentina." (The Blair family missionaries to Argentina for thirty-five years, were returning in 1954. He died in 1959, she lives in El Worth, Texas.) Let us pray for Rev. Enrique Marconi and his pastoral ministry among his own people in Argentina. Pray that his request for an Argentine missionary to work among the Indians will be supported (pray).

Season of Directed Prayer

The Baptist Convention of Costa Rica reported a total of 115 baptisms during 1965. In Mexico eleven guest preachers from seven countries were invited to assist in a simultaneous evangelistic campaign in Costa Rica. Pray that the churches will reap a harvest as they baptize people convicted by this gospel preaching effort (pray).

In Guyana, missionary journeyman Carter was explaining to a group of East Indians how they may know Christ as Saviour. More than 100

men, women, and girls huddled in and around a 12 by 18 foot wooden bottom house (the space under a house built on stilts). The house is unpainted, without running water and the yard has neither grass nor flowers, but the space beneath is the "sanctuary" of the Baptist mission in Lousignan (loo-ze-NYAHN). Let us thank God that his gospel may be proclaimed in any place. It is to be preached to people wherever they are. Pray for the ministry of this missionary journeyman that Bible teaching will result in teaching the hearts and lives of the people in Lousignan (pray).

The gospel is effectively preached through evangelical literature. A Roman Catholic priest recently purchased from the Baptist Book Store in Quito, Ecuador, a version of the Bible commonly used by evangelical Christians in Latin America. A large secular book store in Quito is stocked with many Christian publications from the El Paso Publishing House. The store's manager, impressed by the quality and content of the publications, placed a substantial order for Christian literature. The Bible and evangelical literature "preach the gospel" to many who will not attend an evangelistic crusade. Pray for the printed word (pray).

A twenty-year-old pre-law student and active Catholic in Colombia refused to let a Baptist minister visit his mother who was a patient in the Baptist hospital in Barranquilla. His grandmother finally persuaded him to allow prayer since it was his mother's only request. After prayer the boy with tears streaming down his cheeks asked the pastor for a conference. Later during a revival service, the boy confessed Christ as Saviour. Now feeling a call to the ministry, he plans to leave his law studies to enter a seminary. Pray with thank-

sgiving for the witness extended to this young man through a mother, grandmother, pastor, and a revival meeting. Pray that his ministry will be strengthened to witness to his people (pray).

Appeal for Offering by Dr. Frank Means, Secretary for Latin America (see p. 35 and tell)

Ingathering of Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving: We live in a world where money is used to purchase necessities and luxuries. Let us thank God that money can also be used to "preach the gospel" around the world (pray).

Let Us Behold Him—Living the Way We Pray

Kahlil Gibran wrote: "You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give." Today we have opportunity to give of ourselves in community witnessing. We may give to persons in our communities copies of the Bible, or a portion of God's Word. Some may not read English. (Scriptures in many languages can be purchased at little cost from the American Bible Society, Write to American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, New York 10023, for a catalog.) We may bring persons to preaching services. There are many older church members who cannot attend services because they do not drive a car, especially at night. We may extend ministry to ministerial students from our church or encourage the young people who have answered the call to be ministers. We can assist the church in establishing missions points in our own local areas. What will you do?

Benediction

Behold Him As Saviour

THURSDAY, December 8

Speak to My Heart (read or provide copies for those present)

Mechanical power depends upon good connections with its source. A working machine cannot do its work

Period of Quiet Meditation

When enter without speaking and sit quietly.

Now to play record: "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

if there is weak electrical connection, and an automobile will not pull a hill if there is trash in the gas line. Neither can man do God's work if he is not in contact with God, his source of power. Usefulness depends upon connections which are unbroken and unclogged. Sin and an independent spirit break a Christian's companionship with God. As you pray now, will you confess your shortcomings and ask God for forgiveness. Will you ask that his power be channeled through you. Will you bow your heads and realize anew the wonder that God does his work through you.

There is power, power, Wonder-working power
In the precious blood of the Lamb.

LEWIS F. JONES

Call to Prayer: Let us continue to pray as the names of missionaries having birthdays today are called (prayer).

Behold Him As Saviour (read John 1:29)

John the Baptist testified to his disciples that he knew Jesus of Nazareth to be the Saviour of the world. In his testimony he called Jesus the Lamb of God. To devout Jews a lamb spoke of sacrifice. John's metaphor of the shed blood of Jesus makes vivid the fact that Jesus is the atonement for man's sin. God appointed Jesus to be the Lamb which provides eternal deliverance from sin for those who believe Jesus to be Saviour. God was well pleased with his Son, as he testified when John baptized him in the Jordan River. Jesus takes away sin. God spares the sinner by accepting his Son's blood sacrifice for sin. By continual intercession before the Father for mankind, Jesus, the Son and Saviour keeps on taking away the power of sin over the lives of believers. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

The sin of the whole world is included in the supreme sacrifice. Not for the Israelites alone, but Jesus died for all the world. "For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23 ASV). Man, wherever he is, needs the Saviour. "For God so loved the world that whosoever believeth" (John 3:16) announces that the entire world, each individual, may be pardoned from sin through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

John the Baptist urged his disciples to "behold the Lamb." With eyes of faith we know that saving grace operates in our lives and in the lives of other Christians. We are not to hold onto and cherish sin which the Lamb came to take away. We are to behold him and grow like him.

Gratitude to the Saviour for salvation causes obedient Christians to live in continual praise to him and to deliberate service for him daily. The joy of our salvation is observed by others as we take advantage of opportunities to witness to the meaning of his loving sacrifice. The daily heartbeat of witnessing loving Christians is expressed by the apostle John in Revelation 5:12: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to re-

ceive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."

Sing: "Saviour, More Than Life to Me"

Focusing on the Orient

(As you discuss them, identify countries on the map.)

In our lifetime, the nations of the Orient, where more than half the people of the world live, are passing through revolution when old patterns of life are being broken and cast aside, and multitudes of people are seeking a new way of life. This involves change and uncertainty.

Red China with its explosion of a nuclear bomb in 1964 shows increasing aggressiveness. In 1951, the Southern Baptist missionary left mainland China. Hong Kong and Macao are significant as refuge for more than two million Chinese who have fled Red China. Baptist work in Hong Kong and Macao reflects the struggle of long years of missions growth in South China.

The war-torn country of South Vietnam experiences student demonstrations, religious and political tensions. Southern Baptist missionaries have ministered in this country (see p. 29).

In population, Indonesia is the largest Southern Baptist missions field in Asia. Although it is one of the many Muslim countries in the world, it shows a far more ready response to the gospel than any other predominantly Muslim area.

In Malaysia and Singapore, the races and nations of Asia meet at a crossroads of cultures and religions and are a challenge to evangelical missions.

India faces the constant threat of famine, religious and political difficulties, and is a new field for Southern Baptist missions which we entered in 1962.

A young Asian country, Pakistan, is a field of missions internally and with her neighbors. Our first missionaries reached East Pakistan in 1957.

The Republic of the Philippines became an independent nation in 1946 after being a territory of the United States for nearly fifty years. Close cooperation upon us special responsibilities.

Missions work in Japan has grown rapidly since World War II. Japan is the seventh largest nation in the world in population (96 million) and the fourth in which Southern Baptists now have missions.

Southern Baptists undertook missions efforts in the wake of Korean Baptists. Tremendous social, economic problems and economic stresses help to make South Korea especially responsive to the gospel.

With only one evangelical Christian out of 1,100 people, Thailand is one of the most sensitive fields in the world.

Taiwan, perhaps better known as Formosa, called Free China, as it has been the seat of government of Nationalist China since the mainland was

in 1949. It is approximately seventy miles long, and about seven miles in width. Our first missionaries arrived in 1960.

Across the Pacific Ocean, approximately five thousand miles from San Francisco, a United States military base on a small island called Guam. It was here that military service personnel who initiated Southern Baptist missionary work there, and missionaries went in 1961.

Against this backdrop, 650 Southern Baptist missionaries look with heightened zeal at the opportunity of open doors in these nations of the Orient.

Pray for the multitudes of people in the Orient who yearn for new life in hearts filled with despair. Pray for witnessing Christians (prayer).

In Vietnam a young man named Lanh was converted. He and the concern of others helped his bride to become a Christian shortly after their marriage. She later felt guilty about leaving the religion of her parents and for many weeks she made the fifty-mile trip to bring back cherished belongings from the home of her parents to her home. She often brought back rice which was outrageously priced in Vietnam. On one visit she was bringing with her a small nephew. The Viet Cong forced the bus on which they were riding to stop and took the rice and other items which Mrs. Lanh was bringing to her husband. This was a great shock to the daunted woman. One day she agreed to accompany Mrs. Walter A. Routh Jr., missionary in Vietnam, to visit church members. At one house a young man came in the house quite suddenly and knowing who they were he showed great concern and demanded to know, "How do I become a Christian?" This young woman who had been looking back to an old faith witnessed with confidence to the young man, telling him with assurance and joy what it meant to her to be a Christian.

Pray that Christians in the Orient will be strengthened in their convictions and witness to their own people about the Saviour of the world (prayer).

Pray also for American servicemen in Vietnam, many of whom are Christians and are witnessing of Christ both by word and in Christian living (prayer).

Words of Directed Prayer

During December, 1965, and January, 1966, Southern Baptist missions efforts in Malaysia bore firstfruits with the baptism of thirty new Christians. Our first missionaries were sent there in 1951. Among the baptized were Chinese, Iuravians, English, Burmese and people from two tribal groups of Borneo. Thank God for these conversions and pray that he will empower them as radiant witnesses (prayer).

On Christmas day last year scores of students from

the Hong Kong Baptist College searched out the needy on the streets and in refugee huts to give them food, clothing, and a message of love and concern in the name of Christ. Other Hong Kong students sang carols to patients in one of Hong Kong's largest hospitals. They told the joyous Christmas story to hundreds in wards. Pray for students in Hong Kong this year that the Holy Spirit will guide them and speak through them this Christmas as they tell the good news of Christ (prayer).

The Nationalist Chinese government in Taiwan offered haven to refugees fleeing the China mainland through Burma. On rocky, dry land, refugee families were given two acres which they were to develop within one year. The government supplied machinery to remove the rocks. First the refugees tried to grow tobacco, but they found bananas and sugar cane grew better in the soil. Until their homes were completed, they resided in a nearby village where there is a Baptist chapel. Christians from the chapel saw this as an opportunity to tell them of Jesus the Saviour. God poured out his blessings on these witnessing Christians. A year later, forty-seven persons were baptized in a nearby river. By the end of 1965 the chapel had its own kindergarten with twenty-five children. The spiritual growth among the refugee converts has been unusual. Pray for the chapel, for the witness of new Christians (prayer).

The Japanese tradition of arranged marriages can be a problem to Christian believers. One Christian university student fell in love with a young man from her church. She told her parents that they wanted to be married. The parents felt that it was their responsibility to find a husband for their daughter. "It is because you have become a Christian that your thinking has changed so much and that you are against us," they declared to their daughter. The young woman knew her thinking had changed because she was a new creature in Christ Jesus, but she also knew she was not against her parents. She felt keenly, however, that she must marry a Christian young man. Pray that God will strengthen newborn Christians to witness in love to their families (prayer).

Daniel and Quirina Valdez journeyed many miles to work for a family in Baguio, a resort city in the Philippine Islands. Upon arrival they discovered the family had moved away. The couple was directed to Mr. and Mrs. James A. Easter, missionaries in Baguio, who hired them to do laundry and yard work. Mr. and Mrs. Valdez had few possessions with them, so the missionaries supplied several items, including a Bible. The Holy Spirit used God's Word and the lives of the missionaries to influence this couple for Christ. It was not long until they both accepted Christ as Saviour. Through their faithful witnessing, they are reaching the Igorot (Igorot-ROTE) tribe in the Philippines. More than thirty converts have been baptized among this tribe. Mr. and Mrs.

Valdez have continued their education. **Pray** for this couple and for gospel witness among Igorot people (*pray*).

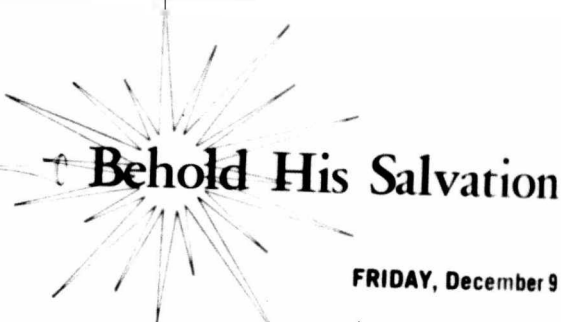
Appeal for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by Dr. Winston Crawley, Secretary for the Orient (*see p. 36 and tell it*).

Gathering of Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving: God accomplishes great things through our money which represents our labors, and gifts for missions is Christian concern in action. Intercessory prayer is communication with God on behalf of others. Express your gratitude to him for his mighty works (*pray*).

Let Us Behold Him—Living the Way We Pray

Repeat the words of the first verse of "Thou Didst



Behold His Salvation

FRIDAY, December 9

Period of Quiet Meditation

(Women enter without speaking and sit quietly.)

Sing, or play record: "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" **Speak to My Heart** (read or provide copies for those present).

If a person from another planet were to visit my home, would he see peace and joy at this Christmas season?

Happy, busy family activity, sharing of gifts, concern over the needs which others have for expressions of our concern, the loving spirit of Christmas, all are means of happy living. We need to add the dimension of expressing gratitude to God for his unspeakable gift to our Christmas observance.

The gift of God in Jesus Christ is eternal. Do we realize the wonder of God's love? Have we expressed our gratitude to him? Will you bow your heads *tread in use unseen solist to sing*.

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

ANONYMOUS (Adeste Fideles)

Leave Thy Throne." Jesus left his glory in heaven to come to earth to provide salvation for you and me. He has come into the world. He has come into the hearts of those who claim him as Saviour and Lord. Different hearts have no room for him. Those who are troubled and have not heard of him will not heed him. Today is the day of opportunity. We will not love to persons we know. Doors of opportunity are open for ministry to international students by our personal experiences. The lost people in your community are aware of a "Christmas celebration." We need to know of Jesus and his love, the true meaning of Christmas. Lost people need to experience Bible study, love, them and arrange to bring them to hear Christmas music and to worship services.

Benediction

Call to Prayer: Let us continue in prayer and meditation, giving thanks for missionaries having holidays today. See page 13. ROYAL SERVICE (*pray*).

Behold His Salvation (read Luke 2:1-20)

Mary and Joseph were devout Jews. At the prevailing custom they brought the infant Jesus to the Temple to be dedicated to God. The purification of the baby in the Temple was accompanied by the sacrifice of two doves or two young pigeons if the parents were poor. A devout couple fulfilled the requirement of the Law.

At the time when Joseph's family was in a devout man named Simeon was there also. The Spirit had revealed to Simeon that he would see the Christ. When Mary and Joseph entered with the infant, Simeon took the child in his arms and praised God, recognizing Jesus as the promised Messiah. Willing to die in peace and with the privilege of seeing the Messiah, Simeon said, "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Like the devout Simeon, we too have seen the salvation of God. God has opened our eyes to the miracle of eternal life. "Once I was blind, but now I can see!" The sight of the infant in the manger, the sight of the grown man with nail-scarred hands hanging on the cross, the realization of the empty tomb on that first morning cause obedient Christians to offer hearts in loving service to him. The responsibility we have in seeing God's salvation cannot be taken lightly. Wherever we have been privileged to have our eyes opened, we cannot escape the fact that multitudes of people still are blind and await the good news.

Our response to his salvation demands a total commitment to his way. Daily denying ourselves of our own way, we must submit our wills to his will.

Jesus told his disciples, "Abide in me." Our relationship to Jesus is to abide in him, thereby growing each day. We are to strive for spiritual maturity, to grow to be more like the Master.

Abiding in Jesus means deepening our prayer life. It also will involve learning more about the methods Jesus used to witness. A close relationship to Christ means being purposely into the "Samaritans" which we have heretofore considered out of bounds. It means being neighborly to any person in physical or spiritual need. It means encouraging the minister in the pulpit and the career missionary on the field by our careful understanding and encouragement. It means lifting to the throne of God requests for more laborers. It means also that we learn to be happy without so many material things so that our money can be used to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth. Realizing the opportunities of being "sons of God," let us sing this beautiful Christmas hymn.

Sing: "Joy to the World"

Focusing on God's World

Last December a missionary couple was appointed to Turkey which extended Southern Baptist witness into sixty-two countries. Although it is impossible to understand all determining factors involved in missionary work in countries, it is helpful to know a few facts.

Our focus this week in the four overseas areas of work supported by Southern Baptists has provided a bit of factual information. Understanding the conditions and needs of people in countries where missionaries serve is imperative if we are to pray intelligently, give with concern, and go when God calls us. Let us pray for publication work, for the personnel of the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond who direct the missionary activities of Southern Baptists overseas, for the laborers and missionaries on the field (*pray*).

In each state there is at least one representative of the Foreign Mission Board. Meeting together with the Richmond staff three times a year, they bear reports to God's guidance in strengthening the total over-

seas missions effort. **Pray** for representatives from your state (*pray*).

An important function in the work of the Foreign Mission Board is the administration of relief. Since World War II this has been a sizable task. Storms in Pakistan, earthquakes in Peru and Chile, floods in Brazil mean there is human suffering. **Pray** for physically deprived persons and the administering of relief funds (*pray*).

Dr. Franklin I. Fowler, medical consultant for the Foreign Mission Board, is enlisting groups of medical specialists who go to various parts of the world where they lecture in hospitals and medical centers. Along with career missionaries, they also are bearing a witness for Christ. This procedure encourages career medical missionaries and strengthens the medical witness of nationals and missionaries. **Pray** for this effort which opens doors of opportunity in medical missions (*pray*).

We have recalled this week that many missionaries labor in fields where there is political unrest, that some live in war-torn nations in the midst of insecure conditions. Their stability in these trying days is made possible through their faith in the promise of Jesus who commissioned them to be his witnesses, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20). **Pray** that frustrations and disappointment may give way to a renewal in dedication as they behold the faith of God whose power is constantly available to them and to us (*pray*).

Americans living abroad are increasing in numbers. In business, in military service, as missionaries and teachers, at foreign universities, about 1.4 million Americans were residing overseas when the 1980 census was taken. Wherever a Christian goes, he has opportunity and responsibility to the Lord for his attitudes, his personal life, the spiritual needs about him. About eighty-five English-language churches overseas are a witness to Christian Americans overseas. These have largely developed from the work of Americans who are not appointed missionaries. **Pray** for Americans abroad that they will see opportunity for strengthening the Christian witness and response (*pray*).

A recent boost to missionary forces overseas has been the appointment of missionary associates and missionary journeymen. As these men and women, helpers to missionaries, meet specific needs in a limited time of service, they will return to their homeland with a new zeal for witnessing. Some of them may become career missionaries. **Pray** for these qualified and skilled young men and women (*pray*).

Season of Directed Prayer

The missionary on a foreign field has not been called to a task different from ours. Only the location is different. His basic mission is the same as ours—to witness to the fact that salvation is provided in Jesus Christ.

As you pray for missionaries, pray also for yourself. You are a missionary, too (pray).

Each day this week we have heard a personal message from an area secretary. Let us pray for them: John D. Hughey, Europe and Middle East; H. Cornell Goerner, Africa, Winston Crawley, Orient; Frank Means, Latin America. They view the whole task of work which needs to be done in their fields. Pray also for Dr. Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board (pray).

As we have had doors open to new opportunities where there has been no evangelical Christian witness, there may be other doors the Lord is opening to Southern Baptists. Pray that his leadership may be followed in these new fields (pray).

Appeal for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering from Dr. Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board (You may wish to play again the recording of the hymn of the week, asking women to sit quietly after the song is concluded. Wait a few moments, then turn over the record and play Dr. Cauthen's message to you. If you do not use the record, then the following can be told.)

"In looking forward to financial responsibilities for 1967, the Foreign Mission Board places great reliance upon the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The importance of this offering can be readily seen in view of the fact that advance in foreign missions calling for appointment of approximately 250 new missionaries annually requires an increase in the operating budget of two million dollars each year. The operating budget for 1967 will call for \$22 million dollars. This will provide for support of missionaries, funds for ministries of evangelism, Christian education, medical work, publications, and seminary training as well as other ministries throughout the world.

"In addition to funds needed for current operations it is necessary to provide funds for buildings and equipment, missionary residences, churches, hospitals, schools, seminaries, publishing houses and other structures urgently needed for certain work. Most of the funds available for construction of buildings are provided by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We always have to leave between three and four million dollars of recommendations unmet because of limitation of funds.

"The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is of vital importance to our worldwide ministry from the standpoint of providing for support of missionaries, ministries of work on the field and capital funds for buildings and equipment.

"May God bless all who pray for and share in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering."

Gathering of Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving: Let us pray that God will use

our lives, our increased vision and fervent prayer to bring all the world to the feet of Jesus Christ. I thank you to God for his unspeakable gift in Christ Jesus (pray).

Let Us Behold Him—Living the Way We Pray

Reflect again on the words of the first verse of "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" (read it or play the record). As you think upon Jesus, examine your life. What are you giving to him? money for missions? This is important. It reveals a concern for the salvation of other men. Have you given to him your heart, your daily living? Have you held back anything? Are you willing that your child, your grandchild be sent to a remote part of the world as a witness? Are you willing to cut the apron strings and encourage your young people to be witnesses for the Lord?

Just as the world is in need of the witness of Christian missionaries, so your home, your church, your community is in need of you and your daily witness. Today you may plan to express to a beloved young person that you are praying that he will listen carefully to God's call. You may plan to meet the physical needs of a neighbor. You may minister to the aging or to a shut-in by correspondence or a drive through the water countryside. You may help plan a community mission survey, so that a new year will see your church more significantly involved in meeting the needs of your community.

Concluding Thought: Our theme this week has been "Behold the Lamb of God." Will you listen while I read a message from Mrs. Robert Ding, president of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC (read "Behold the Lamb of God," p. 37).

Benediction

SATURDAY, December 10

Use bookmark

Turn to page 13 and use Call to Prayer. Pray as a family or alone, write down what the Lord has meant to you or your family.

Pray for the Foreign Mission Board and for all Christian groups which is well pleasing to God.

SUNDAY, December 11

Assign before your devotion time to remember a paragraph or idea from the material of the week of prayer, pages 40-56. Jesus witnessed the power of God when he served others as healer, preacher, Saviour. Talk about the witness which your family are making for Christ in your community. Discuss ways you can develop a spirit of record and benediction. Where will you begin? Pray and ask God's guidance.

Use bookmark and Call to Prayer, page 13

Dear Pastor—

This December magazine points to two events in particular—Christmas Day, and a Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions when we bring gifts to the Saviour through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Since you bear the burden of the months in your church, your thoughts also turn to the Christmas season and all that it involves for your people. It is a wonderful time in the life and work of a church, isn't it?

Last year we received many wonderful letters from pastors regarding the week of prayer. Dr. E. Ralph Grant, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Texas, wrote us:

In addition to the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions observed by our church, I preach on world missions. We observe an annual world mission banquet; we make much of this great occasion in the life of our church. Woman's Missionary Union and the Brotherhood cosponsor this annual event. We urge every member of the church to be present. We always feature a world missionary leader. Young People's groups of our church also have a world missions banquet with a missionary speaker. In the foyer of our church we place a large Christmas tree to be lighted as the offering is received. Often we also feature in the foyer a large map on which mission stations around the world are marked.

For the past fifteen years our gifts each year have been in excess of \$25,000. Increasingly our people find joy in responding to our foreign missions program around the world.

As the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in our church has grown, so have the Cooperative Program gifts. It is our experience that the more we give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering the more missionary minded our people become, and the more we give undesignated through the Cooperative Program.

Dr. W. E. Griggsstaff of the Southern Baptist Convention Stewardship Commission wrote Miss Alma Hunt:

I have just finished looking through ROYAL SERVICE for December, 1965. In reading some of the material a few moments ago, it occurred to me that when you are promoting the Week of Prayer and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering you are also doing some of the most effective Cooperative Program promotion. Your efforts along this line bring spiritual power to our common worldwide task.

A week of prayer, study, and bringing of gifts to the One whose birthday we observe results in God's Spirit permeating the life of Southern Baptist churches. May it be so at Christmas, 1966!

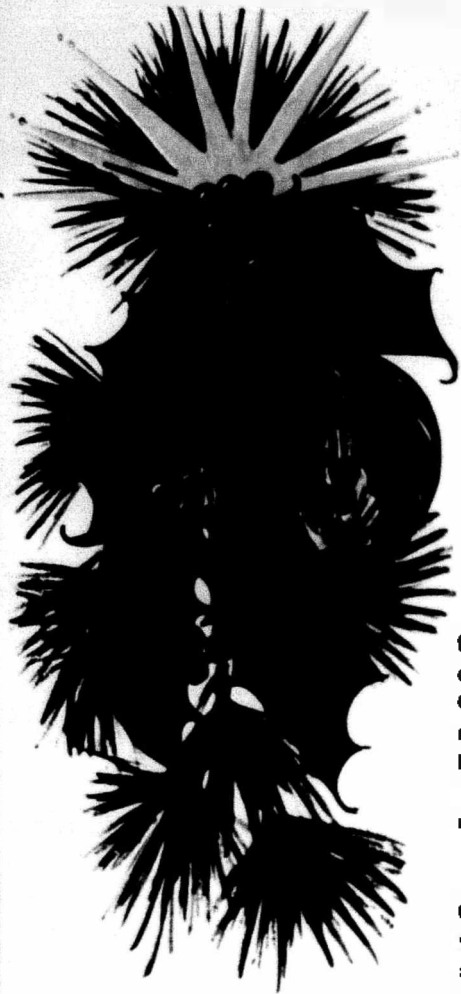
THE DARGIN CARVER LIBRARY
127 9TH AV N
NASHVILLE TENN 37203

of Prayer for Foreign Missions

December 4-11, 1966

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

\$14,500,000



Are You Ready for Christmas?

The Bethlehem innkeeper of more than 1,960 years ago prepared for a sublime event which could have happened in his life. In his case there was no room for Mary and Joseph in the inn. God, who was born in a lowly manger. This innkeeper is just as not ready for this first Christmas experience, though it had been foretold for hundreds of years.

Before feeling too sorry for the innkeeper, let us be ready for Christmas, 1966. And how can we get ready? Have a prepared head.

We do not mean a shampoo and set nor a facial, but a meditation which may be made by praying, "God be in my help and my standing." Such a prayer helps us see beyond the superficial and to have a keen insight and understanding of its meaning for all mankind.

Have a prepared heart.

Sometimes when we do things for others and for ourselves that we've been motivated by selfishness rather than by love. Only when our heart is attuned to the heart of God can we understand the infirmities of others and desire to alleviate their distress.

Have a prepared hand.

Here again we do not mean the manicured, gloved hand which shares God's gifts and the imploring hand of poverty.

There is no better way for you to prepare your heart for Christmas than by participating in your church's Foreign Missions, December 4-11, and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Throughout the week there will be opportunities to visit with Baptist missionaries and what they are doing around the world. It is a good time to search your heart and to meditate as you pray, "God be in my help and my standing." Will you make this kind of preparation for Christmas? Will you know the high inspiration and personal joy of being part of the week means to your church and Christ's kingdom on earth? Will you be ready to celebrate the advent of his coming to be the King of Kings?

by Margaret Bruce